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## CROMLECH ON MYNYDD CEFN AMWLCH, CAERNARVONSHIRE.

THE above is a sketch of the cromlech, which is situated on Mynydd Cefn Amwlch, (the Mountain near the Pass,) in the promontory of Llyn, in the county of Caernarvon. This interesting relic consists of one large stone supported by three others, two under the extreme north side, and one under the south. The group goes by the name of "Coiten Arthur," (Arthur's Quoit,) from a tradition that Arthur Gawr, (Arthur the Giant,) cast it from Carn Madryn, a mountain a few miles off, and that his wife brought the other three stones in her apron, and placed them as supporters or props to the Coiten. It is a curious coincidence that at Stanton Drew, in the hundred of Keynsham, in Somersetshire, where there are extensive Druidical remains,

there was formerly an upright stone, or Maenhir, called "Hackell's Quoit," from a tradition that it was thrown into that position by Sir John Hautville or Hawkeville, a famous champion, from Maes-Knoll,<sup>1</sup> the distance of about a mile, where there is a barrow. This stone has since been broken up to mend the roads! the fate of, alas, too many valuable antiquarian remains. In Cornwall are three cromlechs called Lanyon Quoit, Molfra Quoit, and Chun Quoit. It is also worthy of notice that at Mullimast, in the county of Kildare, Ireland, stands a Maenhir, which goes by the name of the "Druid's Altar," which tradition reports to have been *rolled* from the distance of seven miles, (the nearest quarry of the kind of stone of which it is composed,) each "Sept" being obliged to roll it over their own dominions; be this as it may, the names of the places, through which it is said to have passed, bear some allusion to the rolling of a stone. In England we often hear the names of such stones with the addition of "roll," as Roll-wright, near Chipping Norton, and Roll-Baston, near Cannock Church, in Staffordshire; and the common people in Oxfordshire generally call them "roll-rich" stones; there is also in that county a parish called Roll-wright, from a Druidical circle in it. The old historian, Wormius, tells us that in Denmark, from time immemorial, there was a stone, or sometimes an area encompassed with stones, designed for the coronation of the kings, and that there was a hill near, where the new crowned king gave laws and showed himself to the people. His words are:—"Area saxis undique cincta coronationi regum deputata vicinum habet collem, cui coronatus jam insistebat, jura populo daturus, et omnibus conspiciendum se proebiturus." Ol. Wormii *Monu. Danic*, lib. i. cap. 5.<sup>2</sup> This opinion seems to be confirmed by the various names given to the cromlech by the country people, for instance: Grair

<sup>1</sup> This name of Maes-Knoll would seem to be compounded of a British and a Saxon word: the former relating to some Field, i.e. Battlefield; and the latter to the Tumulus raised on it, perhaps over the remains of the slain. The Cromlech, or "Quoit," might have indicated the grave of a chieftain slain at that spot. The subject is worth enquiring into.

<sup>2</sup> In the *Suecia Antiqua et Hodierna*, 3 vols. folio, 1692, a very sumptuous and valuable work, and in the *Hallandia Antiqua et Hodierna*, 1 vol. folio, 1752, a work of similar character, and both in our collection, the number of carneddau, Meini Hirion, tumuli, Cromlechs, Druidical circles, &c., is so great, and their size so large, as to cast into the shade, apparently, all that we can shew in Wales.—H. L. J.

gorsedd, a throne of tokens; Maen gorsedd, the stone of covenant; Gorsedd gwlad, country throne, where an intelligent peasant said the old kings gave tokens of amity and fidelity one to the other.

Some suppose they were druidical altars, where sacrifices were offered, and possibly where laws were made and criminals punished. They are often called by the country people Allorau Derwyddon, (Druid's altars,) and Cylch Cynghrair, (bardic altar,) where the country people universally believe that various ceremonies connected with the Bards and Druids were performed.

Near the cromlech on Mynydd Cefn Ammwelch, are two other large stones, which probably, at one time, constituted another cromlech, supposing the other supporters to have been removed. On Mynydd Tyr-y-Cwmmwd, near Llanbedrog, is a groupe which goes by the name of Carreg-y-Cromlech; and, although fallen and one of the supporters removed, has still the appearance of having been one.

T. L. D. J. P.

Madryn, Jan. 20, 1847.

### SEGONTIACI.

FROM the circumstance of the discovery of a stone pillar, having inscribed on it the name of Antoninus Pius, in the neighbourhood of Segontium, (*Archæol. Camb.* vol. ii. p. 51,) it might be presumed that this station had received the honour of an imperial visit. It is recorded, however, of this emperor, as a thing of no common occurrence, that whatever exploits were achieved by his lieutenants, it was customary to ascribe the whole credit of the transaction to himself in person, and hence this monument was erected in his name to commemorate the expulsion of the Brigantes from Genounia or Venedotia, the emperor himself not having been in Britain after his assumption of the imperial purple. This fact is mentioned by Mamertinus, in his panegyric oration in praise of Diocletian, in which he says that Fronto, the Roman orator, ascribed to Antoninus Pius the glory of finishing the British wars: "Quamvis ille in ipso urbis palatio residens, quasi longæ naves gubernaculus,

gerendi ejus mandasset auspicium," though the emperor himself was in his palace at Rome, and had committed the management of this affair to others, himself guiding as it were the helm of the ship. It appears from the testimony of Richard of Cirencester, in his treatise *de situ Britanniae*, written about the middle of the fourteenth century, that the region of Venedotia, together with the districts occupied by the Cangiani and the Carnabii, embracing a considerable portion of Mercia, formed a flourishing province, called Genania, under the paternal sway of Antoninus; and this clearly proves that the expedition, undertaken by order of Antoninus Pius against the Brigantes, had especial reference to the protection of this province against the inroads of the northern tribes, and that the object which the Roman general had in view, in the erection of the memorial above alluded to, was that of paying the usual compliment to this emperor.

Among the British states who solicited an alliance with Rome, and sent an embassy to the Roman camp for this purpose, Cæsar mentions the Segontiaci, a nation, as the name seems to imply, whose chief city was Segontium or Caer Segont, the locality of which has been much debated. There are strong grounds for maintaining that Segontium in Arfon was the chief seat of government of Venedotia prior to the Roman invasion, and a place of commercial importance in subserviency to the trading communities of Greece and Carthage. The deliverance of Britain from the Punic yoke is darkly alluded to by one of the panegyrick writers, intimating that the social and political state of the British Isle, under the sway of Carthage, was that of being overwhelmed in an abyss of darkness and superstition. "Quæ profundissimo Poenorum gurgite liberata ad conspectum Romanæ lucis emersit." *Eumenius*.

The Gwynethians, or inhabitants of Gwynedd, being a kindred colony, as the name imports, with the Veneti of Gaul and on the Adriatic, (the continental tribes, as Cæsar observes, always preserving the same appellations in their emigrations westward,) it may be inferred that they had a predilection like them for naval and commercial enterprizes; and as the sovereignty of Venedotia always included the estuaries of the Dee and the Mersey, till its final extinction as a political independent state, we may reasonably conclude that their naval resources were on a considerable scale, and

on a par, at least, with those of Gaul at the period of the Roman invasion. Of the naval armament, which the Veneti of Gaul assembled to dispute with him the sovereignty of the sea, Cæsar expressly declares that many ships were sent from the opposite coast of Britan. The maritime states on the south side of the Thames were at this time under the control of the Belgæ, whose conquests extended as far as the Severn; and as these were in a state of alliance with the Romans, and acted as their auxiliaries in the subjugation of western Europe, no assistance could have been derived from them. The Belgic invasion of Britain was, in fact, a preliminary to that of the Roman, without interfering with the political projects of the latter, plunder and gain being their sole object. The Veneti must have received their succour, therefore, not from the Belgic portion of the opposite coast, but from those parts which lay to the west of the Severn, and probably from the Segontiaci on the banks of the Menai.

Instead, however, of looking to the Principality of North Wales for the settlement of the Segontiaci, it has been sought for on the banks, or immediate neighbourhood, of the Thames, upon the assumption that those states which offered submission to Julius Cæsar were at no great distance from the seat of war. Hence the monastic writers, Higden, *De Antiquis Urbibus*, and Richard of Cirencester, *De Statu Britanniae*, agree in placing the site of Segontium or Caer Segont, on the river Kennet, not far from Reading, and identify it as the modern Silchester, without any authority from ancient writers, or any other ground than bare conjecture; whereas the term itself, Caer Segont, can apply only to its situation on the river Seiont, in Arfon, and here are still to be seen splendid remains of its occupation by the Romans, in the earliest stages of their conquest of Britain.

The Cenimagni, who also sent an embassy to solicit terms of peace, were as remote from Cæsar's camp, when he crossed the Thames, as the Segontiaci; and it must be admitted that if his march created a panic on the banks of the Ouse, it would be equally felt on those of the Severn and the Dee; and we may naturally suppose that the Gwynethians would be among the foremost to deprecate the resentment of the Roman general, and to avoid the sanguinary fate of the Venetians of Gaul.

Tacitus expressly mentions that the Cenimagni remained for some time exempt from the calamities of war in return for their voluntary submission to Caesar : “ non praelitis contusi, quia societatem nostram volentes accesserant.” Notwithstanding which, we find that Ostorius Scapula, in the reign of Claudius, obtained a signal victory over their united forces, and soon afterwards overran the whole of Venedotia to its extreme limits in the district of Lleyn. That the Romans, about this time, took possession of Segontium, and began to lay the foundation of a new fortress on the estuary of the Seiont, is extremely probable ; as from the eligibility of its situation, overlooking the opposite coast of Ireland, with the rich and productive Isle of Mona in its immediate vicinity, circumstances which appear to have excited the attention and admiration of Ostorius, no place could have been better suited for a garrison to keep the western coasts of Britain in subjection. Suetonius Paulinus could not fail in turning to account these natural advantages, and establishing a permanent garrison to secure his conquests ; and we accordingly find that a troop of cavalry had a station assigned to it in the western parts of Venedotia, among the Ordovices, from which we may infer that there was a body of legionary soldiers in garrison in the same district. Tacitus briefly mentions this fact : “ Ala in finibus suis agens.” The total destruction of this wing or troop of horse by the natives, a short time before the arrival of Julius Agricola, brought upon them the vengeance of this general, and an indiscriminate slaughter took place. It would, doubtless, be deemed presumptuous to attempt to point out the scene of this transaction, but there are some remarkable coincidences, calculated to render it in some degree probable, that the locality of this event was in Arfon. Within the distance of two miles of Segontium, on the banks of the river Gwyrfaï, there is an elevated and compact camp or entrenchment called Gadlys, contiguous to which is a large farm called Bodaden, or Statio Alæ. Not far from this, in the direction of the British fortress of Dinlle, is a ford, bearing the significant name of Rhyd-yr-Equestriaid. On the farm of Bodaden is a small field, with a considerable bank in the middle, which is still known by the name of Talwrn-yr-Arch, the literal translation of which is, conic-shaped enclosure of the sepulchral coffin. Great quantities of bones have

been found from time to time in ploughing this field, from which it may be inferred that some bloody encounter took place near this spot. From the numerous remains of mud and stone forts and other entrenchments which abound in this district, of which ten may be reckoned at a short distance from each other, it would appear that it had been the scene of frequent conflicts between contending parties, both in the Roman and Saxon times, and more particularly perhaps during the erection of Segontium ; but there is one fortification of a very peculiar construction, which may be noticed in connexion with Bod-Aden, from its apparently great antiquity. It is a double stone fort, consisting of one circular, twenty-five yards in diameter, and the other quadrangular, having its largest side forty yards in length, with square towers at each corner, in close contiguity to each other, and known by the name of Gaerwen or the White Fort. It is situated on the brow of a commanding ridge, at the distance of about a mile and a half from Gadlys, having Segontium in full view. Within the area of these forts have been discovered large quantities of flint arrow heads, and on the contiguous plain may still be seen numerous traces of circular huts and enclosures. There are also other indications of warfare, peculiar to this district, in the number of graves of heroes and chieftains which are found or recorded here, and which belong to a very ancient period, if we may judge from the names of several of them. Among these may be mentioned the graves of Gwydion ap Don, the astronomer, on Morfa Dinlle ; of Gwallawg or Galgacus, the tall, on the banks of the brook Carrog, which flows by Gadlys ; of Bedwi, the brave, on the sloping side of Gallt Tryfan ; of Mahon, the son of Madron, on the uplands of Nantlle ; and of Gwaewyr Gurgoffri, whose monumental *Stele* still maintains its upright position between the Llifon and Llyffni rivers.

It is impossible to reconcile the confusion which the monastic writers, including Jeoffrey of Monmouth, have created by placing one Caersegont in Arfon, and another as the chief city of the Segontiaci, in Hampshire, and by attributing to each the same traditional legends ; misrepresenting the Flavian family in its connexion with British history, without examining in detail the life and actions of Constantius Chlorus, and deducing from them a more correct

view of the affairs in Britain from the accession of Gallienus to the retirement of the Emperor Diocletian. Eutropius declares that Constantius Chlorus died and was buried at York; Matthew of Westminster bears witness to the discovery of his tomb at Segontium, in Arfon, by Edward the first; while Nennius, or his commentator Mark the hermit, is equally positive in asserting that his sepulchre was to be seen near the city of Caersegeint or Silchester.

Calleva or Silchester, from the extensive ruins which it still presents, is generally believed to have been one of the largest Roman stations in Britain, situated, according to the Itinerary of Antoninus, at a distance of fifteen miles from Vindonum, with which it was connected by a military road, still traceable and running in a westerly direction.

Vindonum was the scene of a sanguinary battle, in which Constantius Chlorus was a principal actor; and one of the panegyrical writers, in his allusion to it, seems to connect it with the event of the birth of his eldest son, Constantine the Great.

Upon the testimony of these writers, (*Latino-Attici Oratores*), one of whom, Eumenius, the rhetorician, was a member of the household of Constantius Chlorus, we are enabled to trace some particulars of his life, which shed a light on that obscure portion of British history to which Gildas applies a quotation from Porphyry, representing the dismembered state of Britain as overrun with faction and usurpation (*fertilis tyrannorum*.) In an address to Maximian and Constantine, on the marriage of the latter, the following passage represents Constantius as being in the flower of youth when he became the father of Constantine:— “*Divi, inquam, Constantii filium, in quem se prima illius juventa transfudit, in cuius ore coelestes illius vultus natura signavit.*” In another address, on the annual commemoration of the restoration of the city of Treves, in the presence of the Emperor Constantine, the Belgic professor of rhetoric makes use of similar expressions:— “*In primo ætatis suæ flore generavit, toto adhuc corpore vigens, illa prædictus alacritate ac fortitudine, quamquam bella plurima, præcipue campi Vindonis idonei—inde est quod tanta ex illo in te formæ similitudo transivit.*” The plain inference to be drawn from this passage is, that Constantius was in the full vigour of youth at the time of the birth of his son, and that his

strength was unimpaired, notwithstanding the hardships of many military campaigns, and more especially the affair of Vindonum; from which it follows that he had gained some signal victory here before Helen gave birth to her illustrious son. Now, Constantine was born about the year A.D. 273, so that the battle of Vindonum was an event which preceded that date; and hence, also, by ascertaining the locality of it, we may obtain some data for determining the particular military services on which Constantius was engaged under his imperial patrons prior to his son's birth, as well as the residence of Helen.

The Belgic orator already mentioned professes to commence his oration by reminding the emperor of the origin of his family and his imperial pretensions, of which the generality of people to this day, he observes, are perhaps ignorant, but those who entertain the greatest regard for him are well aware of; "ab illo enim divo Claudio manet in te *avita cognatio*." The father of Constantius was a Dardanian nobleman of the name of Eutropius, and his mother a niece of Claudius, being the daughter of Crispus, the eldest brother of that emperor, a family connexion expressed by the term "*avita cognatio*"; "ab ipso generis autore in te *imperii fortuna descendit*." The claim of Constantine to the imperial purple is here recognized as descending to him from Claudius Gothicus, the founder of his race. These Dardanian connexions, added to the circumstance that Constantius had been at a later period of his life governor of Dalmatia, have induced a belief that this portion of the Roman empire and the banks of the Danube, had been the scene of his early exploits and military services. Accordingly, the city Naissus has been fixed as the probable birthplace of Constantine, on the doubtful authority of some Greek writers. But who can look upon Naissus as a proper asylum for Helen, when he considers that this city was encompassed by an army of 320,000 ferocious Goths, who had overrun the whole of Mæsia, Thrace, and Macedonia? The whole fabric of the Roman republic was tottering to its very foundations between the years 268 and 270, and the signal and unexpected victory obtained over these invaders on the plains of Naissus by the Emperor Claudius put only a temporary check on the further advances of this barbarian horde; nor can it be supposed that the province

of Maesia could be brought to such a settled state in A.D. 273, as to afford a secure place of abode to an officer's lady however highly connected. Had such been the case, Constantius would have been found in arms under the banners of his imperial relative; whereas, in all the eulogistic addresses, in which his name is mentioned, no allusion is made of his prowess against the Goths, while they abound in the highest praise and adulation on the success of his arms in destroying so many thousands of the Franks, Burgundians, and Alemanni, who infested the western portion of the empire, and in driving back, beyond the Rhine, the Germanic hordes which threatened to overwhelm the republic.

Between the years 270 and 275, during which interval the birth of Constantine took place, while the emperor Aurelian was employed in forcing Zenobia, queen of the East, from her palace at Palmyra, to adorn in chains his triumphant entry into Rome, Constantius Chlorus appears to have been similarly engaged in bringing into subjection Victorina, Queen of the West; and we accordingly find that her prime minister, Tetricus, appeared in the procession among the captives on the same memorable occasion.

Victorina, the mother of camps, appears to have partially succeeded in taking possession of Spain, Gaul, and Britain, and forming them into an independent government, through the aid of her lieutenants, or tyrants as they are styled, whom she employed in succession in endeavouring to secure her authority. This was a project feasible enough, as the panegyrist observes, during the reign of the Emperor Gallienus, from A.D. 260 to 268; for during that interval the republic had been maimed of nearly all its members, either through neglect and inattention on the part of the government, or from the fatal tendency of the times. Among these tyrants may be reckoned the two Victors, Posthumus, Ælian, Marius, and Tetricus, whose coins are found in great abundance amongst the ruins of Segontium in Arfon, particularly the last, whose authority seems to have been recognized by Cladius Gothicus, as his name occurs on the reverse of some of them.

From the testimonies already adduced, it is clear that the early campaigns of Constantius were assigned him in Britain and Gaul, and this fact is strongly corroborated by some

remarkable discoveries at Calleva and Vindonum in Hampshire. This latter station being fifteen Roman miles from Silchester in a westerly direction, as before noticed, will be found to coincide with a village now called St. Mary Bourne, equidistant from King's-clere and Andover. Now, by referring to the Belgic author already quoted as to the affair of Vindonum, we find him in another part of his oration before Constantine at Treves exclaiming, with apparent feelings of enthusiasm :— “*Quid loquam Vindoneos campos hostium strage completos, sed adhuc ossibus opertos?*”

Here we are informed that the plains of Vindonum, at the time of the delivery of this oration, exhibited traces of a sanguinary victory obtained here by Constantius over the partisans of Victorina, and that the plains were covered with the bones of those who were slaughtered in the battle. The identical spot at the present day bears the significant name of *Litch-field*, or the field of carcasses; thus placing beyond the possibility of doubt, that here were the Campi Vindonei, and that Constantine's earliest exploits were in Britain. That this battle had some reference to the fate of Victorina is evident from a monumental inscription to her memory discovered at Silchester, and removed to London by Lord Burleigh, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, as witnessed by Camden; from which it may also be inferred that Calleva was one of the strongholds of that insurrection, which had for its object the separation of Britain from the dominion of Rome.

Allowing this event at Vindonum to have taken place on the eve of the birth of Constantine, and that it was the prelude to the pacification of western Europe, the achievements of Constantius Chlorus on the plains of Vindonum in Britain, and of Lingonia in Gaul, will be found to harmonise with the triumphant entry of Aurelian into Rome A.D. 274, as *Restitutor Orbis*.

Such being the case on unexceptionable evidence, it may be asked, where was Helen in the interim? Undoubtedly not at Naissus, where Gibbon would place her, surrounded by hordes of Goths, waiting for the first opportunity of spreading terror and desolation throughout the provinces on that side of the Adriatic, but in some place of greater security in Britain, far removed from the turmoils which presaged the convulsion and overthrow of all pagan institutions.

In my next communication I shall endeavour to establish upon uncontrovertible evidence, not from Greek or Sectarian authorities, not from the annals of prejudice and superstition, but from a fountain of truth hitherto overlooked and underrated,—from writers cognizant of the facts which they assert, and having the only legitimate means of correct information, that Constantine the Great was a *Native of Britain.*

J. J.

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### ROMAN REMAINS IN DENBIGHSHIRE AND FLINTSHIRE.

NOTWITHSTANDING the labours of Pennant and others, we do not seem to be in possession of such satisfactory information concerning the Roman stations and Roman roads, &c., in these two counties, as we might be. We are not aware indeed of any systematic investigation having been carried on, for a sufficient length of time, with this object in view; but from various conjectures, which we have been able to form, we have little doubt that a good deal of additional light might be thrown on the subject. From the proximity of these two counties to the important station of DEVA, (Chester,) and from their mineral riches having been well known to the Latin conquerors of Britain, there is no doubt that this district was much frequented at that period, and therefore we are entitled to expect the discovery of numerous remains.

The exact line, however, of the main road from Chester to Caerhun (CONOVIVUM) has not yet been determined, and whether it passed by Bwlch Agricola over the skirts of Moel Fenlli, or whether it ran by Bodfari, is still unknown. It appears certain that a Roman road has been traceable from Caergwrle towards Mold; but we lose sight from that place of all satisfactory indications of the line. The name of Bwlch Agricola would naturally lead to the supposition that a Roman way passed by this spot; and again, the measured distances of Bodfari and Caerwys from Caerhun would shew that VARIS, which was on the main road, must have been at, or near to, one of these places.

In the absence, therefore, of any more certain information, which, however, we hope will be procured in future years, it may be a matter of interest to many of our readers if we place before them accounts of some Roman coins lately found on Moel Fenlli. They were discovered by the tenant of a farm called Bryn Saeson Uchaf, in the parish of Llanverres, on his sheep-walk, near the summit of the mountain just named. Some years ago, about 1500 bronze Roman coins were also found on this mountain. These occurrences would seem to indicate that this fortified post was occupied by the Romans during their sway over the country, though it seems to be of purely British construction.

For the engravings which illustrate the more remarkable among these coins, we are indebted to the liberality of Joseph Ablett, Esq., of Llanbedr Hall, Ruthin, who has presented them in a very kind manner to this work; and in whose possession, from his known love of Cambrian antiquities, we are glad to state that these coins now are. They are all that were left out of about four times as many originally found by the farmer, but which he had sold before Mr. Ablett happened to hear of them.

No. 1. The first coin is a remarkably fine gold Nero, middle size, and in excellent preservation.



No. 2. Another is in silver, of which only the reverse is engraved. The obverse bears a laureated head turned to the sinister side, with the legend IMP ANTO . . . . IVS AVG



No. 3. The next is in bronze. Obverse, a laureated head, with the legend, CONSTANTINVS IVN NOB C. The reverse is shewn in the engraving.



No. 4. Another, very similar in the design both of the obverse and reverse, is here given.



No. 5. A fifth has, on the obverse, a laureated head, representing one of the Constantine family, but with the legend obliterated. The reverse here engraved bears the legend, (V R B S ?) ROMANA, and in the exergue, T R P.



No. 6. This coin has, on the obverse, a head helmeted, and vizor turned to dexter, with the legend, V R B S R O M A.



No. 7. The obverse of this coin bears a helmeted head to dexter, with a trident or sceptre on the left shoulder, and the legend, C O N S T A N T I N O P O L I S.



No. 8. Obverse, laureated head, sin. C O N S T A N T I N V S M A X A V G. Reverse, same as No. 3; well preserved.

No. 9. Obverse, laureated head, sin. F L I V L C O N S T A N S N O B C A E S. Reverse, same as No. 3, with a wreath between the standards. Exergue, I A S. Well preserved.

No. 10. Obverse, laureated head, sin. F L I V L C O N S T A N S N O B C A E S. Reverse, same as No. 3; in good preservation.

No. 11. Obverse, laureated head, sin. The facial line peculiarly long, and of good execution. . . . . N V S M A X A V G. Reverse, same as No. 3, with a palm branch between the standards. Exergue, P C O N S T.

No. 12. Obverse, a laureated head, sin. F L I V L C O N S T A N T . . . . Reverse, same as No. 3. Exergue, T R P.

No. 13. Obverse, helmeted head, dexter. V R B S R O M A. Reverse, same as No. 6, with a palm branch between the stars in the upper field. Exergue, T R P.

No. 14. Obverse, same as No. 6, with only two stars in the upper field.

Several other coins offered only repetitions to the above types, and were more or less worn. Duplicates of some of these coins have been discovered during the late excavations at SEGONTIUM.

It would be highly desirable that steps should be taken (1) for determining the site of VARIS, so as to decide whether it was at Caerwys, which to us seems the most probable from

the nature of the ground, or at Bodfari, as has often been conjectured; (2,) for completing the trace of the Roman road from Mold to VARIS; (3,) for ascertaining the line of road across the hills from VARIS to CONOVIUM. Any information on these points may be addressed to, and will be gladly received by, the Editors.

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## THE COUNCILS AND PARLIAMENTS OF SHREWSBURY.

### SECTION I.

It must be a cause of deep regret to all who are interested in the literature and former condition of North Wales, that a country, possessing such numerous and striking claims to attentive consideration, should have produced within itself so few writers of its own history. And the same feeling will arise upon seeking through the pages of its native authors for a connected view of the various circumstances, which influenced its political institutions, and finally led to its extinction as an independent sovereignty. An acquaintance with these subjects must be drawn from extraneous sources of information, since the Welsh annals themselves supply but very inadequate materials for the narrative. Nor, if we turn from the relation of national events to the peculiar construction of the language, in which we wish to find them conveyed, rich as it may be in its attractions for philosophical analysis, inviting the subtle speculations of etymologists by its pure and unchanged vocabulary, and developing, as it were, the very elements of primitive speech, shall we find that it has escaped the same comparative degree of neglect. We may indeed grow bewildered by the intricate mysteries of its Triads, become perplexed by the visionary interpretation of Bardic Maxims, and lament the weakness of our faculties whilst endeavouring to unravel the prophetic books of Merlin and the obscure wisdom of Catwg and the Cymry; the thoughts may yield themselves to the pleasing fascination of its melodious poetry, be captivated by the monorhythmic stateliness of the Englynion, and the liquid harmony of the Cowydd, by the flowing muse of Aneurin, and the royal inspiration of Llywarch Hên: we may become enchanted by

the wildness of its traditional lore, admire the profound sagacity of its legislators, and regard with earnest admiration its long array of tutelary saints and heroes; and yet, after all our enthusiasm, obtain but a very superficial insight into the national character.

A keen discernment of the actual value of that kind of knowledge, derivable from existing antiquities, though still clouded by too fond a reliance on fabulous chronology, has, within a late period, become greatly extended, and it continues gradually arresting public attention. Yet it may be reasonably doubted whether the importance of preserving these remains, as anything more than mere objects of idle curiosity, is a sentiment so fully recognized as it deserves. It is indeed very questionable, with all the interest that has been excited, whether the duty of delivering them for the use of posterity, unimpaired by neglect or wilful injury, is a principle their proprietors conscientiously understand.

In glancing, meanwhile, at the many obstacles which still intercept a fair prospect over this extensive field of observation, it must not be supposed that the different exertions hitherto made have escaped the grateful notice of the present enquirer, since it is owing perhaps not more to the intrinsic interest of the subject, than to the erudite labours of Llwyd, Davies, and Owen Pughe, and to the agreeable essays of several anonymous contributors to those valuable Welsh serials which are now extinct, that his own attention became first aroused. He cheerfully acknowledges his great obligations to all of them, and wishes to confess how strongly their unpretending exertions have impelled him to seek for fresh supplies of information. Whilst, however, he must not be considered as undervaluing the least effort that has been made, still less as attempting to depreciate its legitimate influence on his own feelings, he must honestly state that when looking at its magnitude, he thinks that very little has been accomplished, illustrative of the entire subject. It cannot be otherwise than irksome to expatiate on such deficiencies. Yet they must be gently noted, or the chasms of Welsh history may probably remain, for years in advance, unclosed. It is too apparent, indeed, to all who will permit their patriotic sympathies to flow in a natural current, that the valiant struggles of the Welsh for self-protection, their dauntless resistance to oppression, to capricious exaction, and

injustice, have hitherto received only partial and imperfect examination. A succinct and unprejudiced survey of their national character under all its varied aspects of individuality, and of primeval simplicity, from the time of Brutus to Cadwladyr the Blessed, an account of the real exploits of Arthur, divested of the puerilities of the *Mabinogi*, and the embellishments of middle-age romance, still remain to be written. Much is left for investigation in the circumstances under which the doctrines of Christianity were delivered by Dyvan and Germanus to the Welsh Church, as well as in the security their disciples found from Saxon cruelty in this secluded asylum. The true intention of those various monuments of stone which lie so profusely scattered over the sublime heights of Arvon, amid the unsheltered plains of Mona, and the dreary fastnesses of Ardudwy, has never been rationally set forth. Their connexion with the sepulchral rites and solemn superstitions of the Celtic race, who have consecrated them to our protecting care, their identity with remains existing among the Northern tribes, who adopted the same unsettled and nomadic habits of life, and their incidental notice in the earliest effusions of the Bards, though meriting the most profound attention of ethnographers, have experienced little beyond the casual inspection of a passer-by. If we descend to questions of more recent date, we shall behold them shrouded under the same kind of incomplete research, and the progressive happiness which we shall perceive arising out of established institutions, the influence of music and of song, the thirst for martial glory, and the fatal consequences of intestine discord, as they pass before the mind in review, will too clearly intimate how much remains to be performed, before the world can fully comprehend the peculiar character of this important country.

As time moves rapidly onwards it consigns the memory of the past to oblivion, and admonishes the witnesses of its stealthy flight to rescue its evanescent memorials from decay. Whoever undertakes, then, to gather up for the use of succeeding generations any of the scanty materials that can be saved from destruction, will discharge a duty both generous in itself, and deserving the approbation of futurity. The present outline neither attempts so lofty an aim, nor yet to complete the unfinished picture which has been exhibited. That honourable task, indeed, must be accomplished by some

one who can, unremittingly, devote many years to the enquiry; who, with silent industry, will be contented to collect from private evidences, from public documents, from personal examination, and from the interchange of thought among minds intent upon the same pursuit, all such facts as the devouring course of ages has spared. Nevertheless, a long cherished interest in these subjects has urged the writer to attempt something towards their elucidation, and the ensuing remarks are offered rather under the impulse of that feeling, which can only exist amongst natives, or those whom birth and education have, as it were, naturalised to the adjacent district, than presented as a finished sketch of the important events chequering the later history of North Wales. Having been placed on the confines of either country, and habituated for many years to hearing the language of one, spoken with the accent of the other, a Borderer may probably be cleared from the suspicion of taking an unfair view, or of having his mind warped by national prejudice, when he brings before the reader's consideration some of the concluding acts of that great struggle for independence, which terminated in the disastrous subjection of the Welsh, and in the complete extinction of their ancient sovereignty.

Without needlessly entering into the various causes, which from time to time excited the mutual jealousies of those two contending powers, without discussing the petty feuds, or that exterminating system of warfare, which was equally adopted by both, or dwelling upon the pretexts so readily seized upon for making fresh attacks, it will be sufficient introduction to the present enquiry simply to state, that at a very early period the English and Welsh came into hostile collision, and that even going back so far as the ninth century, we shall perceive the often disputed question of tribute constituting the ostensible reason for invasion. To a nation so sensitive of provocation, so proverbially irascible as the Welsh, the idea of being looked upon as a conquered people, and compelled to pay homage, as inferiors, to their stranger assailants, could not fail of exasperating, or arousing their fiercest passions, of awakening a spirit of heartfelt resentment, and impelling them onwards into vigorous resistance. No wonder, then, that we may so often see them rushing dauntlessly forward in defence of their common country, forgetful, for the moment, of all those private dissensions and fatal

animosities which were in reality the latent cause of their weakness, and resolving to yield up even life itself rather than recede an inch from their native soil, or part with one of their inherent rights. Offa had vainly tried to check their impetuous inroads by that gigantic Dyke, which, spurning all the natural obstructions of mountain and morass, may still be traced from the mouth of the Wye to the parish of Mold, in Flintshire. The conflict of St. Stephen's day, however, proved how utterly insufficient was this stupendous effort of wild and tedious industry to break the assaults of his enemies, still less to protect his own army from disgrace. Does the inglorious retreat of Egbert from Anglesey, a monarch under whom the sevenfold powers of the Heptarchy became first virtually united, fail to shew how thoroughly imbued with patriotic energy were the followers of Mervyn when they retrieved the sad disaster of Llanvaes, and drove the Saxon from the island? Does the resistance of Rhodri and Gwyriad to the confederated Danes and the Mercian Berthred, stamp the ancient Briton with the brand of cowardice? Does the field of Gwaith Hirbarth refuse to vindicate the bravery of Howel, or the battle of Llanwennoc the prowess of Einion? Is the heroism of Anarawd, or Rhodri's revenge at Cymryd, only a tradition echoed by the rocks of Conwy? Was the destruction of Alfred's forces near Brecon, and the routing of the mingled array of Northmen and Saxons at Crosford, only the image of the chronicler's dream? Are there no characters still to be traced on the filial pillar of Eliseg in the vale of Llangollen? But let us desist from recounting these valiant exploits of a people so profuse of life, and confine the attention more closely to the moving causes of their subjugation.

These may be sought for, first, in the peculiar nature of their Government. It was an Elective Monarchy: to this must be attributed the perpetual discord that reigned in the councils of the favoured prince, as well as the restless intrigues which weakened his authority, or disturbed his repose. The law of Gavel-kind, by which the lands of the father were equally divided at his death among his sons, or the lands of a brother, if he had no issue, among all his own brethren, by constantly diminishing the patrimonial estate,— impoverished and weakened the possessors. So imperfect a notion of what actually constituted political power

undoubtedly afflicted the country very greatly, nourished all those internal disorders which kept it in a state of turbulent excitement, and invariably prevented a prompt and determined co-operation in defence of the common interests. This law, which was not repealed until the thirty-fifth of Henry VIII., was most prejudicial to the general strength of the nation. By perpetually changing the owners of the soil it held the reigning prince in a state of extreme uncertainty; his prospects of support and his government became equally fluctuating, and that unhealthy condition of affairs was soon induced which rendered the country a sickly, and an easy, prey for the rapaciousness of the first daring invader to take advantage of. These two circumstances in the constitution of North Wales, will at once disclose the origin of those intestine broils which afflicted the nation, perpetually harassing to its rulers, and paralysing their best intentioned exertions, since they had, in fact, the irksome task of appeasing civil confusion and discord before they could effectively take the field against their foreign enemy.

In illustration of what has been advanced, we find Madoc ap Meredyth, the last prince of Powys, dividing his kingdom by the law of Gavel-kind amongst his three sons, and, thus separating the paternal inheritance, it immediately fell under the power of the English crown. We see how, for the sake of personal aggrandisement, or to gratify private enmity, after they had all fought together in the same cause against Henry I., Owen Cyveilioc and Owen Vychan despoiled one of their neighbouring allies of his possessions in Powysland; we see Owen Gwynedd and Rhys ap Gryffydd quickly profiting by their acts of treachery and injustice, sharing betwixt them the recently acquired territory, and then adding to it the lands of Cyveilioc. We find Cadwaladyr unnaturally driven forth as an exile by the same Owen Gwynedd, and compelled to seek an asylum, from his brother's cruelty, in the court of the English king: we find Prince David ruthlessly shutting up his brother Gryffydd for years in the desolate stronghold of Criccaeth, deaf to the entreaties of that courageous bishop of Bangor who implored his release, (and who subsequently placed his kingdom under an interdict, in consequence of his refusal to listen to his prayers,) impervious to all feeling of natural humanity and affection, and only brought at length to a sense of compassion by the threatening retribution of his royal uncle.

These, as we have observed, were two powerful causes of the secret weaknesses of the Welsh, two constant obstacles to their social happiness, and to their advancement in the principles of sound legislation. However great an amount of obloquy then has rested upon the national character, or however justly reproach may attach itself to individuals, some extenuation must be sought for them in this explanation. The usages of the age must help to palliate such transgressions; something, too, must be attributed to the reckless spirit of the times, as well as to the faults of a system, which unavoidably and unconsciously produced such pernicious effects upon the community at large. And certainly, if we would fairly estimate the conduct of the Welsh chieftains towards each other, or if we would wish to pronounce an equitable opinion on the amount of wickedness supposed at that period to be attached to such transactions, we must do it by placing them in contrast with the contemporaneous crimes of the English court.

The cruelties of Cadwallon and Madoc ap Rhiryd, the latter of whom slew two, and the former three, of his uncles, outrages, if viewed by themselves, sufficiently revolting to all our sense of private duties or public morality, yet are not, in themselves, greater instances of guilt than Offa's revenge upon Ethelred, or Edward's upon Adelwulf, whilst they must be certainly reputed as much less unnatural than Elfrida's treacherous assassination of her step-son. Nor will the whole annals of Celtic barbarism reveal any actors more detestable than *Ælfeda* and *Eadburgha*, who remorselessly imbrued their hands in the blood of their husbands. What are the murders of Morgan ap Cadwgan and Howel ap Ievan, when set in opposition with the brutal defacement of Elgiva's beauty, by the priestly Odo, or with Eleanor's relentless triumph over the fair Rosamond? How light is the faithlessness of ap Cynan, when balanced against the ingratitude and perfidy of William Bruce! Owen's abduction of the wife of Gerald can hardly be deemed more heinous than Edgar's violation of Wulfroæda. The imprisonments of Iago and Llewelyn ap Iorwerth were not more iniquitous than Beauclerk's savage treatment of his brother Robert at Caerdiff; than Henry the Second's conduct to his wife and daughter-in-law; nor than the rebellion and fraternal strife of his children. Surely the beheading of Puleston was as impartial

an act of retribution as the ignominious execution of Maelgwyn Vychan, and far more merciful than the butchery of Rhys ap Meredyth, at York, and Prince David, at Shrewsbury. Can the lapse of ages obliterate from the pages of history the inexpiable atrocities of John upon his defenceless nephew, or his pitiless confinement of Eleanor, at Bristol; can it purify the Tower from the foul deeds of Richard III? The universal opinion of a more civilised era has not stamped the internecine struggles of the sovereigns of North and South Wales with more opprobrium than it has assigned to the Jewish massacres of Coeur de Lion, or to the sanguinary wars of the Roses.—But instinctive horror recoils from pursuing such sickening recitals, and offended humanity would willingly veil them in oblivion.

There was also another reason for the misery and disorders incessantly convulsing the nation. The imposition of tribute, an exaction obnoxious from its origin, was a ceaseless cause of discontentment, tyranny, and dispute. The victory of Athelstane, at Hereford, (A. D. 933,) is perhaps the earliest instance of this hateful tax being actually paid, since the days when Caradoc's unconquered soul resisted Roman domination, although the indiscreet council of Rhodri had previously recommended it to his descendants. Edgar, it is true, consented to commute the stipulated delivery of gold for three hundred wolves' heads, hoping by that means, to rid the country of animals which had so injuriously ravaged the flocks of both kingdoms. But we hear no more of the subject at all until the days of Harold, when the Welsh, worn out by his restless persecutions, were again reduced to bear the odious burden, and compelled to deliver up hostages for its proper fulfilment. We know not, indeed, how long they then continued to discharge it with punctuality, but we may be certain, as the oppression was impatiently endured, it would be evaded at the earliest moment that presented a fair opportunity for resistance. The next notice, however, that occurs is in the reign of the Norman conqueror, who exacted their homage, and an oath of fealty, as feudal chief. He evidently considered them as on the same footing with his other vassals, but an early outbreak shewed how entirely he had mistaken the national character of the Welsh. Certainly, when Stephen concluded his peace, more than a century afterwards, their freedom was unconditionally granted, and the hateful question of homage

not even mentioned. A similar lenity was not, however, experienced during the reign of his successor, whose victories over Owen Gwynedd terminated by enforcing the performance of the empty ceremony in the heart of the vanquished country, where he also received the two sons of the fallen prince as securities against future disobedience. This treaty, (A.D. 1158) forced rather by necessity than fear upon the Welsh, kept them only for a short period in a state of humility and subjection; for the natives of South Wales, having gained an important advantage in the meanwhile over the English troops, immediately asserted their independence. Although they could only retain it for a brief space of time, yet this was sufficiently long to inspire their countrymen in the North with similar hopes of liberating themselves from their own yoke.

And now do we behold, for the first moment, the subsidence of private jealousies, and the chieftains of Gwynedd Powys, and Dinefawr, vigorously uniting themselves together to retrieve the disasters which weighed down the energies of their country. Had they always been actuated by so wise and generous a spirit, it would have been easy to foresee the prosperous results of such a confederacy. But this policy was unhappily uncongenial to the natural disposition of the people. The strength of the present league had the effect of averting the barbarous intentions of Henry, who was bent upon utterly exterminating his adversaries from sea to sea. The camp of Caer Drewyn still bears testimony to the precautionary skill that was exerted on the emergency. Even as the heavens fought against the kings of holy writ at Megiddo, so did they now pour out their fury upon Henry. The long ridges of the Berwyn interposed their lofty acclivities to his savage ambition, and the peaty waters of the Ceiriog were stained with a fresh tinge by the blood of his slaughtered followers. The monarch himself scarcely eluded death as he crossed the stream. His forces were on all sides ignominiously routed. He had only left to him, after "Corwen's day of glory," the brutal revenge, so common to the age, of retaliating his losses on the defenceless hostages consigned to his charge, and he consoled himself under his disgrace, by putting out the eyes of the four Welsh princes as soon as he reached London.

Circumstances like these will serve to convey some idea

why the feelings of the Welsh were continually in a state of irritation, why there existed such bitter animosity to their Saxon neighbours. At a time, too, when predatory incursions upon each other were regarded rather in the light of chivalrous forays than ruptures of the peace, there was always something to excite the suspicions, or provoke the hostilities, of both parties. They lived with passions sensitive of every pretext for mutual collision, and earnestly sought for, rather than strove to avoid, new opportunities of gratifying their revenge.

It may be reasonably enquired, whether the Welsh had any sufficient grievance to warrant their defection when truces had been agreed upon, and whether there existed in reality any justifiable motive for their hostile movements? In reply to this question it may first be stated, generally, that a free born tribe would naturally be found impatient of coercion; they could hardly suffer their wanderings to be impeded by the artificial outline drawn by Offa; and they would fearlessly deride the bodily mutilation threatened by Harold, for passing over its boundary. They could not possibly regard, with sentiments of affection, a line of kings, whose undistracted efforts were directed to making fresh acquisitions from their own contiguous territory, and whose wakeful policy lay in placing its inhabitants, when conquered, under a severity of laws unknown in the more powerful state. Or, descending into later ages, they could not cheerfully acquiesce in all the commercial restrictions, the pecuniary amercements, or the fifteen penal disabilities which affected them in their principal transactions with the English. How could they behold themselves shut out from all posts of honour and of confidence, and foreigners usurping the distinctions, which their own prowess had paved the way for creating? The English barons might exult in having extorted their charters of liberty from the Plantagenets, but the scattered remnants of the ancient Britons could only depend upon the righteousness of their cause; their personal valour could alone shield their homes from desolation, and themselves from extinction.

Their actual condition shall, however, be placed more distinctly before the reader's view. The first statute of Westminster, (3rd Edw. I. A.D. 1275,) which contained such important provisions for the redress of evils in the realm where it was enacted, declared that as the king's writs were not current either

in the Marches, or in Wales itself, the inhabitants were dependent on the absolute will of the sovereign. (clause xviii.) In the second year of Edward of Caernarvon, it was decreed that all bailiffs, king's officers, and sheriffs, should not be made by the justices of Wales without the assent of the chamberlain, a functionary invariably appointed by the crown; and that no Welshman should hold these offices, provided an Englishman could be found to discharge the duties. The same document in which the foregoing answer was conveyed, set forth the immense injury suffered by the people of North Wales through the defect of the royal briefs, and the neglect of suits in Chancery. (Rot. Parl. vol. i. p. 273.) In the 27th of Edw. III. (A. D. 1353), the merchants were prohibited under forfeiture of all their lands and tenements, from exporting their wool, which 7th clause of the *Ordinacio Stapularum*, though equally applying to the English and Irish, must have been peculiarly injurious to a pastoral people, who supported themselves by their flocks, like the Welsh; (*Statutes of the Realm*, vol. ii. p. 334. Rot. Parl. vol. ii. p. 246-7.) Again, when the citizens of Hereford complained that their Welsh creditors enforced the payment of their debts, and seized upon their goods and chattels in exchange for their own merchandise, a royal writ was promptly issued to the justices to prevent this honest method of redress; and it is almost needless to add that replevin immediately followed the annoyance of distress. (Rot. Parl. vol. ii. p. 397.) It might be supposed these acts were all that injustice could frame; but more severe provisions remained to be established in the reign of Henry IV. In the second year after he ascended the throne, he summoned a parliament to Westminster, when the deliberate voice of the assembled representatives ordained that no one whole born in Wales should purchase lands upon the Marches or Borders; that they should neither bear office nor armour, and that such as dwelt in franchised towns should produce sureties for their good behaviour. (*Statutes of the Realm*. 2nd Hen. IV. chap. xi.) The next act of his reign (4th Hen. IV. A.D. 1402, chap. xxvi. to xxxiv.) followed up the same stringent ordinances, by decreeing that no Englishman should be convicted in Wales, and that no minstrels should be suffered to gather the people together. How vainly was the instrument of the domestic harper endeavoured to be silenced and broken; how fruitless

was it to check the magic effusions of Bleddyn, Casnodyn, and ap Gwilym! The Unbenaeth Prydain might have been hushed for a little space in those rude halls where it was once so joyfully sung, but the strains of liberty could never be effaced from recollection; the martial Cornbuelin might be unstrung, and the mellow sounding Crwth lie tuneless upon the mournful hearth, but their music would live in the undying affections of the people: the aged bard might be driven into banishment, as an eyeless, mutilated, spectre, but still

“The harp of Cambria would, in other hands,  
Remind the Cambrian of his father’s fame.”

The statute goes on to state that no assemblages should be made throughout the country, that they should neither victual their castles, nor retain them, nor fill any post of honour or dignities whatsoever. Even Englishmen, if married to Welsh women, were declared to be similarly incapacitated. The discredit of such enactments must not rest entirely against the king; his lords and commoners must equally share the blame of such harsh and impolitic measures. The petitions of the latter indeed asked for them; the Parliament bore a close resemblance to its present form, and the powers of each estate were fully settled; so that this was, undoubtedly, a legislative assembly, and the clear interpreter of the national voice. How was it possible, then, for neutrality to exist? or how could confidence, or sincerity, or friendship, spring out of such vicious maxims of government, and such popular ill-will? But no sooner are these restrictions removed than the political disease is at once cured; no sooner are the laws of the two countries consolidated, than anarchy and discontentment instantly died away; and a new body, full of strength and beauty, occupied their place.

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Simul alba nautis  
Stella refusit,  
Defluit saxis agitatus humor,  
Concidunt venti, fugiuntque nubes,  
Et minax (quod sic voluere) ponto  
Unda recumbit.

And may it not be asked how did England, so tardily alive to the advantages derivable from leniency and conciliation, though having already, for more than two centuries, witnessed their happy fruits in her treatment of Wales, endeavour to reap profit from the trial? how did she govern herself in suc-

ceeding years, or learn to compose her differences with her other dependencies? did experience remove her prejudices, or severity increase her power? were religious animosities and civil contest more easily suppressed by persuasive argument, or by the shackles of tyranny? Let the enactments, remaining so long unrepealed on her statute books, answer the questions; let the fiscal duties imposed upon her foreign colonies testify how utterly powerless she found herself to enforce such arbitrary restraints; let her oppressive taxation of America shew her entire want of prudence and magnanimity. The imagination may indeed still tell how the heroic bark, which carried Madoc ap Owen Gwynedd across the desert waters of the ocean, wafted with its crew the seeds of that liberty and independence which, withering or crushed in their native soil, were destined to produce "the mighty Spirit of the Future" in the distant West; but, as the more conscientious duty of considering the real causes of Cambria's fall is the intention of the present sketch, it must be restricted, as much as possible, to matters of fact.

CHARLES HENRY HARTSHORNE.

(*To be continued.*)

#### SHERIFFS FOR THE COUNTY OF MERIONETH.



Arms of the County of Merioneth.

FROM the first appointment that I find recorded of a sheriff for any county in Wales, about the time of the conquest by Edward I., to within a short period of the passing of the "new ordinance" relating to the Principality, (statute 34 and 35 Henry VIII. c. xxvi.) the sheriffs of Merionethshire, and such other of the then counties of

Wales as sheriffs were nominated for,<sup>1</sup> were generally appointed to hold the office for life, or "quamdiu nobis placuerit,"—during the sovereign's pleasure.<sup>2</sup> The persons to whom the shrievalty was thus granted, were, with few exceptions, unconnected with the districts for which they served, Englishmen of rank or influence, who let out, or *farmed*, the appointment to those from whom they could obtain the highest rent for it; "and those farmers or deputies," observes Mr. Robert Vaughan, of Hengwrt, the Merionethshire antiquary, "bare a very heavy hand over all y<sup>e</sup> counties."

By the statute above referred to, it was enacted, that "The President, Council, and Justices of Wales, or three of them at least, (whereof the President to be one,) shall yearly nominate three able persons in every of the said twelve shires [of Wales] to be sheriff thereof, and shall certifie their names to the Lords of the Privy Council *Crast. Animarum*, to the end that the King may appoint one of them in every of the said shires to be sheriff for that year, like as is used in England." But, from about two years preceding this enactment, though the office was granted to hold "quamdiu nobis placuerit," a form adhered to at the present day, the custom of appointing a new sheriff annually, began to be adopted. Subsequently to the passing of the new ordinances, though the king, having the power, until the 21st year of James I., without the authority of Parliament, of altering the laws relating to Wales,<sup>3</sup> might have extended the duration of a sheriff's service beyond the time specified in those enactments, yet this was never done, and new appointments have been made annually down to the present time; unless we except the instances which occur in respect to several of the Welsh counties during the civil war, and just preceding the Restoration, when sometimes it appears that no sheriff was appointed, sometimes it is stated that he continued in office for two, or, in some cases, even three years; but the country was, at those periods, in so unsettled a state, that a deviation from its established customs, or ordinances, might be expected.

The following list, up to and including the year 1541, is compiled entirely from contemporary records in the public repertories, in London and elsewhere; after that period, from several lists of various dates, tested as to their correctness in very many instances, (and in a few, where errors occurred, they have been rectified,) by reference to evidences contemporaneous with the periods to which such evidences refer. The instances where these references have been made are denoted by an asterisk.

Lists of the sheriffs for North Wales, from about the year 1541, were published, some years since, in a Welsh periodical called the

<sup>1</sup> As regards North Wales, the present shires of Denbigh and Montgomery were made counties by a statute of 27 Henry VIII.

<sup>2</sup> One instance occurs of the office being granted to a person to hold "quamdiu se bene gesserit"—so long as he should conduct himself well;—another, for three years.

<sup>3</sup> This power was abrogated by a statute of 21 James I. c. 10.

'Gwyliedydd ;' but they are, in many instances, so erroneous, as to be of little value. The Merionethshire list is particularly incorrect. It begins with the year 1538, but the name placed opposite to that year is Ellis Maurice, who served the office in 1541. The names then go on in nearly the same order as in this list, but with the wrong year appended to most of the early ones.

20th March, 12 Edw. I. (1284,) office of sheriff for Merioneth granted to Robert de Staundon.

14 Edw. I.<sup>1</sup> The same person was sheriff.

4th Feb., 23 Edw. I. (1295,) the same person was sheriff.

Michaelmas, 4 Prince Edw., (1304,) Robert de Eccleshale was sheriff. The same person occurs as holding the office at the festival of Michaelmas in 1306, and at the same festival in 5, 6, and 7 Edw. II., (1311, 1312, 1313.) In the seventh year of Edw. II.<sup>2</sup> he appears to have been reappointed to the shrievalty, to hold it during the king's pleasure.

Easter, 2 Edw. II., (1309,) Ievan ap Howel was sheriff.

8 Edw. II., Griffith ap Rees appointed sheriff in this year,<sup>3</sup> to hold the office during the king's pleasure.

Mich<sup>a</sup>, 10 Edw. II., (1316,) Griffith ap Rees was sheriff.

Mich<sup>a</sup>, 13 Edw. II., (1319,) John Cam was sheriff.

Mich<sup>a</sup>, 14 Edw. II., (1320,) John Cam was sheriff, and Thomas de Peulesdon his deputy.

15 Edw. II.,<sup>4</sup> Griffith ap Rees appointed sheriff in this year, to hold the office during the king's pleasure.

Mich<sup>a</sup>, 16 Edw. II., (1323,) Griffith ap Rees was sheriff.

20 Edw. II.<sup>5</sup> In a precept of the 20th year of Edw. II., for the election of representatives in parliament for the county of Merioneth, addressed to the sheriff, he is styled *Griffith ap Rees, knight.*

Mich<sup>a</sup>, 1 Edw. III., (1327,) Griffith ap Rees was sheriff.

Mich<sup>a</sup>, 3 Edw. III., (1329,) Edmund Hakelut was sheriff.

Easter, 4 Edw. III., (1330,) Edmund Hakelut was sheriff.

4 Edw. III. The fourth year of Edw. III. commenced upon Jan. 25, 1330, and ended Jan. 24, 1331. In it, Griffith, son of William de la Pole, lord of Mowddwy, was appointed sheriff.

5 Edw. III. Richard de Holond was appointed sheriff in the 5th year of Edw. III., which commenced upon Jan. 25, 1331, and ended Jan. 25, 1332. He occurs also as sheriff, at Michaelmas, 1332.

<sup>1</sup> The 14th year of Edward I. commenced upon 20th November, 1285, and ended 20th November, 1286.

<sup>2</sup> The 7th year of Edward II. commenced upon 8th July, 1313, and ended upon 7th July, 1314.

<sup>3</sup> The 8th year of Edward II. commenced upon 8th July, 1314, and ended 7th July 1315.

<sup>4</sup> The 15th year of Edward II. commenced upon 8th July, 1321, and ended 7th July, 1322.

<sup>5</sup> The 20th year of Edward II. commenced upon 8th July, 1326, and ended 20th January, 1327.

6 Edw. III. Robert de Middleton, "vallettus regis," appointed sheriff in this year. As the preceding sheriff was in office at Michaelmas, 1332, Middleton must have been appointed between that time and the 24th of Jan., 1333, the last day of the 6th year of Edw. III.

29th Dec., 6 Edw. III., (1332,) Walter de Manny was appointed sheriff, to hold the office for life. He was summoned to parliament, as Lord Manny, from the 21st to the 44th years of Edw. III., and died about the year 1372, being then a knight of the Garter.

9th Aug., 17 Edw. III., (1343,) Howel ap Grono occurs as sheriff, but he must have been farmer of the office, or deputy, under Walter de Manny.

19 Edw. III. John de Housum, Housom, Huusum, or Hosum, was sheriff in this year, (upon the 18th Oct., 1345,) but he, also, must have been farmer of the office, or deputy, under Walter de Manny.

21 Edw. III. Meurig Maelan was, probably, farmer of the office, or deputy sheriff, under Walter de Manny, in this year, which commenced upon Jan. 25, 1347, and ended Jan. 24, 1348.

Mich<sup>s</sup>, 26 Edw. III., (1352.) In a roll of Ministers' accounts for Merionethshire, for the year ending at this time, occurs, "Eignion ap Gr: nuper subvic" (deputy sheriff) dicti Walteri" [de Manny]. This, I have little doubt, from a subsequent entry in the roll, was the same person as Eignion ap Griffith, who upon the 1st Oct., 25 Edw. III., was appointed sheriff of Caernarvonshire, to hold the office for the space of three years.

Michaelmas, 27 Edw. III., (1353,) "Rañ del Hope" was sub-sheriff to Walter de Manny.

46 Edw. III., (1372,) Griffith ap Llewelyn ap Kenric, of Cors-y-gedol, was sheriff, or farmer of the office of sheriff, either directly under the crown, or under the sheriff appointed by the crown.

Michaelmas, 50 Edw. III., (1376,) John de Baildon was sheriff.

11 Rich. II. Richard Balden was sheriff in the 11th year of Rich. II., which commenced upon June 22, 1387, and ended June 21, 1388.

28th Oct., 15 Rich. II., (1391,) Vivian Colyer, the younger, of Harlech, appointed sheriff; his shrievalty to date from the preceding Michaelmas, and he continued to hold it at Michaelmas, 1392. In a roll of Ministers' accounts for the year ending at the time last mentioned, Griffith ap Llewelyn ap Kenric is referred to as "nuper vicecomes," and Richard Mascy is mentioned in like terms.

Mich<sup>s</sup>, 20 Rich. II., (1396,) John Banham was sheriff. A roll of Ministers' accounts for the county of Merioneth, for the year now concluded, contains an account rendered by Einion ap Ithel,<sup>1</sup> "nuper vicecomes, de denaris per ipsum debitibus de arreragis computi sui." Mr. Vaughan, of Hengwrt, the Merionethshire antiquary, states that Einion, "after y<sup>e</sup> death of Walter Lord Manny,<sup>2</sup> y<sup>t</sup> by patent was highe sheriff of y<sup>e</sup> county of Merioneth for life, did succeed him

<sup>1</sup> Of Rhiwaedog.

<sup>2</sup> He died, as above stated, about the year 1372.

in y<sup>t</sup> office." If it be true that Einion ap Ithel was Lord Manny's successor, it certainly does not appear that upon the death of that nobleman, he was appointed to hold the shrievalty for life.

1 Hen. IV., (1400,) Einion ap Ithel, Rhiwaedog, died sheriff for the county in this year; probably between 25th Jan. and 29th Sept.

6th Jan., 13 of Henry Prince of Wales, afterwards King Hen. V., (1412,) shrievalty granted to Thomas Strange.

Michaelmas, 3 Hen. V., (1415,) Thomas Strange was sheriff under the same grant.

9 Hen. V. Thomas Strange occurs as sheriff in this year, which commenced upon 21st March, 1421, and ended March 20th, 1422.

6th March, 1 Hen. VI., (1423,) shrievalty granted to Robert de Orelle, and he occurs as sheriff at Michaelmas, 4 and 5 Hen. VI., (1425 and 1426.)

25th Dec., 11 Hen. VI., (1432,) shrievalty granted to Thomas Burneby, for life.

16 Hen. VI. John Hampton occurs as sheriff in the 16th year of Hen. VI., which commenced upon 1st Sept., 1437, and ended 31st Aug., 1438; but he was, probably, farmer of the office, or deputy sheriff, under Thomas Burneby.

Michaelmas, 28 Hen. VI., (1448,) Thomas Burneby was sheriff.

31 Hen. VI.<sup>1</sup> In this year the shrievalty was granted, for life, to Thomas Burneby and Thomas Parker. Thomas Burneby occurs also, as sheriff, at Michaelmas, 32 Hen. VI., (1445,) in the 33d,<sup>2</sup> the 34th, (1455,) and at Michaelmas in the 36th (1457) year of the same reign.

36 Hen. VI. Vivian Palgus occurs as sheriff this year, and unless he was farmer of the office, or deputy, under Thomas Burneby, he must have entered upon the shrievalty between Michaelmas, 1457, and 1st Sept., 1458.

23 Sept., 1 Edw. IV., (1461,) shrievalty granted to Roger Kynaston, Esq., of Hordley, in Shropshire, (afterwards Sir Roger Kynaston, knt.)

10th Oct., 4 Edw. IV., (1464,) the office of sheriff was granted to Thomas Croft, Esq., for life.

12 Edw. IV., (1473,) shrievalty confirmed by act of parliament to Sir Roger Kynaston, knt., for life; a former grant of it to him, for the same term, having been annulled by a grant, or restoration, or confirmation of divers grants, made in the same parliament, to Edward, Prince of Wales. Sir Roger Kynaston occurs also, as sheriff, at Michaelmas, 21 Edw. IV., (1481.)

22nd Sept., 1 Hen. VII. (1485), Piers Stanley appointed sheriff for life. In the Act of Resumption of the same year are two clauses, the one saving the shrievalty to Piers Stanley, the other to

<sup>1</sup> The 31st year of Heny VI. commenced upon 1st September, 1452, and ended August 31st, 1453.

<sup>2</sup> The 33rd year of Henry VI. commenced upon 1st September, 1454, and ended August 31st, 1455.

Richard Pole, "squier for the [King's] body." Here, therefore, occurs another instance of the shrievalty being granted to two persons. It was again saved to Stanley, in an Act of Resumption of 11 Hen. VII., (1495); and he occurs as holding it at Michaelmas, 7 Hen. VIII., (1515.)

9 Hen. VIII.<sup>1</sup> Ellis ap Maurice, of Clennenney, in Caernarvonshire, was deputy to Peter (Piers) Stanley, sheriff of Merioneth.

5th July, 12 Hen. VIII., (1520,) offices of sheriff and escheator granted to John Scudamor, "vnus gen<sup>m</sup> hostiar' cam<sup>m</sup> fire," to hold during the king's pleasure, in as ample manner and form as Piers Stanley, or any other sheriff or escheator, theretofore held the same offices. This grant was revoked by letters patent, dated 22nd June, 20 Hen. VIII. (1528.)

Michaelmas, 13 Hen. VIII., (1521,) Humphrey ap Howel ap Jenkin, of Ynys-y-maengwyn, was deputy-sheriff to John Scudamor.

22nd June, 20 Hen. VIII., (1528,) offices of sheriff and escheator granted for life, by letters patent, to William Brereton, one of the grooms of the king's privy chamber, which letters patent he subsequently restored to the king.

Michaelmas, 20 Hen. VIII., (1528,) Hugh Lewis was deputy-sheriff to Wm. Brereton, Esq.; and had been so to his predecessor, John Scudamor.

Michaelmas, 22 Hen. VIII., (1530,) John Puleston was deputy-sheriff to Wm. Brereton.

25th May, 25 Hen. VIII., (1533,) office of sheriff granted to the said Wm. Brereton, and to John Puleston, one of the sergeants at arms, and to the longer liver of them. It is stated, in a recital of the grant to them, that they were made, appointed, and ordained, "conjunction et divisim," sheriffs of Merioneth. They were sheriffs under the same grant, at Michaelmas, 1535.

16th June, 28 Hen. VIII., (1536,) shrievalty granted to John Puleston for life.

Mich<sup>s</sup>, 29 Hen. VIII., (1537,) John Puleston, Esq., was sheriff, and Lewis ap Owen, of Dolgelley, his deputy.

Mich<sup>s</sup>, 30 Hen. VIII., (1538,) the said John Puleston was sheriff, and the said Lewis ap Owen his deputy.

1541. Ellis ap Maurice, of Clennenney, in Caernarvonshire, owner of property in the parishes of Bethgelart, Llanfrothen, and Llanvihangel y Traethau, in the county of Merioneth, was sheriff under a patent dated 18th Nov., 1540, granting the office to him, to hold during the king's pleasure; but from this time, with a single exception,—the year of the Restoration,—no person held the shrievalty a second successive year.

The following is a list of the subsequent sheriffs, down to and including the gentleman now officiating:—

<sup>1</sup> The 9th year of Henry VIII. commenced upon 22nd April, 1517, and ended upon 21st April, 1518.

- \*1542<sup>1</sup> Jenkin Vaughan, of Caethle, esq.
- \*1543 John Powes, of Vaner, esq.
- \*1544 Robert Salesbury, of Rûg, esq.
- \*1545 Edward Stanley, of Harlech, esq.
- \*1546 Lewis Owen, of Dolgelley, esq., Vice-chamberlain of North Wales, and Baron of the Exchequer of Caernarvon.
- \*1547 Richard Mytton, esq., lord of Mowddwy.
- \*1548 Rice Vaughan, of Cors-y-geadol, esq.
- \*1549 Robert Salesbury, of Rûg, esq.
- \*1550 John (or Evan) David Lloyd, of Ceiswyn, esq.
- \*1551 John ap Hugh ap Evan, of Mathavarn, in the county of Montgomery, esq.
- \*1552 Ellis Price, LL.D., of Plas Iolyn, in the county of Denbigh.
- 1553 Edward Stanley, of Harlech, esq.
- 1554 Rich Mytton, esq., Lord of Mowddwy.
- \*1555 Lewis Owen, of Dolgelley, esq., Vice-chamberlain of North Wales, and Baron of the Exchequer of Caernarvon. He was murdered near Dinas Mowddwy, in the month of October in this year.
- \*1556 Ellis Price, LL.D., of Plas Iolyn.
- 1557 Rice Vaughan, of Cors-y-geadol, esq.
- \*1558 John (or Evan) David Lloyd, of Ceiswyn, esq.
- \*1559 John Salesbury, of Rûg, esq.
- \*1560 Ewd. Stanley, of Harlech, esq.
- 1561 Hugh Puleston, Esq.
- \*1562 John (or Evan) David Lloyd, of Ceiswyn, esq.
- \*1563 Griffith Glynn, esq.
- \*1564 Ellis Price, LL.D., of Plas Iolyn.
- 1565 Ellis ap William Lloyd, of Rhiwaedog, esq.
- \*1566 John Lewis Owen, of Dolgelley, afterwards of Llwyn, esq.
- 1567 Griffith Glynn, esq.
- \*1568 Ellis Price, LL.D., of Plas Iolyn.
- \*1569 Piers Salesbury, esq.
- \*1570 Owen Wynne, esq.
- \*1571 John Yerworth, esq., supposed to have been of "Tref Brysg," in the parish of Llanuwchllyn.
- \*1572 John Gwynne ap Ellis, esq.
- \*1573 John Lewis Owen, of Dolgelley, esq.
- \*1574 Ellis Price, LL.D., of Plas Iolyn.
- 1575 Rowland Pughe, the elder, of Mathavarn, in the county of Montgomery, esq.
- 1576 Evan Lloyd David ap John, of Nantmynach, esq.
- 1577 John Wynn ap Cadwallader, of Rhiewlas, esq.
- 1578 John Salesbury, of Rûg, esq.
- 1579 Ellis Price, LL.D., of Plas Iolyn.
- 1580 John Price, of Gogerthun, in the county of Cardigan, esq.
- 1581 Evan Lloyd, of Yale, in the county of Denbigh, esq.
- \*1582 Rees Hughes, of Maes-y-pandy, esq.
- \*1583 Richard ap Hugh ap Evan, esq.
- 1584 Ellis Price, LL.D., of Plas Iolyn.
- 1585 Piers Salesbury, esq.
- \*1586 John Wynn ap Cadwallader, of Rhiewlas, esq.
- \*1587 Hugh Nanney, the elder, of Nanney, (now Nannau,) esq.
- \*1588 Griffith Vaughan, of Cors-y-geadol, esq.
- 1589 John Wynn, esq., of Gwydir, in Caernarvonshire, but owner of property in the hundred of Arduudwy.
- 1590 John Lewis Owen, of Llwyn, esq.

<sup>1</sup> The year annexed to each sheriff is that during nearly the whole of which he officiated. The patent, in many instances, is dated towards the end of the preceding year.

- 1591 William Maurice, esq., (afterwards Sir William,) of Clenenney, in Caernarvonshire, but owner of property in the parish of Llanvihangel-y-Traethau, &c.
- \*1592 Griffith Wynne, esq., of Berthdu, in the county of Caernarvon.
- 1593 Cadwallader Price, of Rhiwlas, esq.
- \*1594 John Vaughan, of Glanllyn, esq.
- 1595 Morris Lewis, of Ffestiniog, esq.
- 1596 Robert Lloyd, of Rhiwgoch, esq.
- 1597 John Conway, esq.
- 1598 Lewis Owen, of Llwyn, esq.
- 1599 Matthew Herbert, of Dolgeog, in the county of Montgomery, esq.
- 1600 Piers Salesbury.
- \*1601 John Wynn, of Gwydir, esq.<sup>1</sup>
- \*1602 Robert Lloyd, of Rhiwgoch, esq.
- 1603 Griffith Vaughan, of Cors-y-gedol, esq.
- \*1604 Thomas Vaughan, of Pant Glas, in the county of Caernarvon, esq.
- \*1605 Thomas Needham, esq.
- \*1606 Sir Wm. Maurice, of Clenenney, Knt.
- \*1607 Sir James Pryse, of Ynys-y-maengwyn, Knt.
- 1608 Ednyfed Griffith, of Gwyddgwion, esq.
- \*1609 John Price, of Rhiwlas, esq.
- \*1610 Matthew Herbert, of Dolgeog, esq.
- \*1611 William Lewis Anwill, of Park, esq.
- 1612 Sir John Wynn, the younger, of Gwydir, Knt.
- 1613 John Lloyd, of Vaynol, in Flintshire, esq., Registrar of St. Asaph.
- 1614 John Vaughan, of Caergai, esq.
- \*1615 Robert Lloyd, of Rhiwgoch, esq.
- \*1616 John Lloyd, of Rhiwaedog, esq.
- \*1617 Lewis Gwyn, of Dolaugwyn, esq.
- \*1618 William Wynne, of Glyn, esq.
- \*1619 Humphrey Hughes, of Gwercelas, esq.
- \*1620 Sir Jame Pryse, of Ynys-y-maengwyn, Knt.
- \*1621 John Vaughan, of Caergai, esq.
- \*1622 John Vaughan, of Caethle, esq.
- \*1623 Thomas Lloyd, of Nanfreyr, and of Milton, juxta Sittingbourne, in Kent, esq.
- 1624 Wm. Lewis Anwyl, of Park, esq.
- 1625 Robert Lloyd, of Rhiwgoch, esq.
- \*1626 William Vaughan, of Cors-y-gedol, esq.
- \*1627 Hugh Nanney, jun., of Nanney, esq.
- \*1628 Piers Lloyd, of Dôl, esq.
- \*1629 William Oxwicke, of Coventry, esq.
- \*1630 Henry Pryce, of Taltreuddyn, esq.
- 1631 Rowland Pugh, of Mathavarn, esq.
- \*1632 John Owen, of Clenenney, esq., afterwards Sir John Owen, Knt.
- 1633 Edmond Meyrick, of Garthlywyd, esq.
- \*1634 Lewis Nanney, of Maes-y-pandy, esq.
- \*1635 Evan Evans, of Tan-y-Bwlch, esq.
- 1636 Richard Vaughan, of Cors-y-gedol, esq. He died on the 14th of July, in this year, and John Lloyd, of Rhiwaedog, served the office of sheriff for the remainder of it.
- 1637 William Wynne, of Glyn, esq.
- 1638 Hugh Nanney, of Nanney, esq.
- \*1639 Griffith Lloyd, of Maes-y-neuadd, esq.

<sup>1</sup> Afterwards raised to the dignity of a Baronet.

- 1640 Thomas Phillipps, of the county of Salop, esq.
- 1641 Lewis Anywl, of Cemmaes, esq. He died in his office, and Griffith Nanney, of Dolangwyn, esq., served as sheriff for the remainder of the year.
- 1642 John Lloyd, of Rhiwaedog, esq.
- \*1643 Rowland Vaughan, of Caergai, esq.
- \*1644 John Morgan, of Celli Iorwerth, esq.
- 1645 William Owen, esq. "Constable of Harleigh; noe sessions kept this yeare, he held out his castle for y<sup>e</sup> king for halfe a yeare siedge."<sup>1</sup>
- 1646 No sheriff.
- 1647 Lewis Owen, of Peniarth, esq. "He was made by the parliament."<sup>1</sup>
- 1648 Owen Salesbury, of Rûg, esq. "He was made by the parliament. Noe sessions kept this year."<sup>1</sup>
- 1649 Maurice Williams, of Nannmor, esq. "In the beginning of his time, upon the 30th of January, 1648, [1648-9] was our Soueraigne Lord y<sup>e</sup> King beheaded, and a new patent sent to all Sherifffes, and Monarchy altered to y<sup>e</sup> State Government."<sup>1</sup>
- \*1650 Robert Anwyl, of Park, esq.
- 1651 Murice Wynn, of Crogen, esq.
- 1652 John Lloyd, of Maes-y-Pandy, esq.
- 1653 Lewis Lloyd, of Rhiwaedog, esq.
- \*1654 Maurice Lewis, of Pengwern, Festiniog, esq.
- 1655 John Anwyl, of Llanvendiged, esq.
- 1656 Wm. Vaughan, of Caethle, esq.
- \*1657 Robt. Wynne, of Sylvaen, esq.
- 1658 Howell Vaughan, of Glanllyn, esq.
- 1659 "R<sup>a</sup> Anwyl, y<sup>e</sup> youngest sonne of Wm. Lewis Anwyl; he continued sheriff two years, and was the first in Charles the Second's reign."<sup>1</sup>
- 1660 The same.
- 1661 Humphrey Hughes, of Gwerclas, esq.
- \*1662 Wm. Salesbury, of Rûg, esq.
- \*1663 Roger Mostyn, of Dol-y-corslwyn, esq.
- \*1664 John Wynne, of Cwmmine, esq.
- \*1665 Maurice Williams, of Nannmor, esq.
- \*1666 Lewis Lloyd, of Rhiwaedog, esq.
- \*1667 John Lloyd, of Maes-y-pandy, esq.
- \*1668 Richard Wynn, of Branas, esq.
- \*1669 Robert Wynne, of Glyn, esq.
- \*1670 John Vaughan, of Caergai, esq.
- \*1671 Maurice Wynn, of Llandanwg, esq.
- \*1672 Howel Vaughan, of Vaner, esq.
- \*1673 Nathaniel Jones, of Hendwr, esq.
- \*1674 Owen Wynne, of Glyn, esq.
- \*1675 Hugh Tudor, of Egryn, esq.
- \*1676 Sir John Wynn, of Rhiwgoch Bart.
- \*1677 Griffith Vaughan, of Cors-y-gedol, esq.
- \*1678 John Nanney, of Llanvendiged, esq.
- \*1679 Robert Wynne, of Maes-y-neuadd, esq.
- \*1680 Richard Nanney, of Cefn-deuddwr, esq.
- \*1681 Edmund Meyrick, of Uchel dre, esq.
- \*1682 Wm. Vaughan, of Caergai, esq.
- \*1683 Vincent Corbet, of Ynys-y-maengwyn, esq.
- \*1684 Anthony Thomas, of Hendre, esq.
- \*1685 Lewis Lewis, of Penmaen, esq.
- \*1686 Richard Poole, of Caenest, esq.

<sup>1</sup> An old list of the sheriffs for Merionethshire, at Porkington, in Shropshire, ending with the year 1673.

- \*1687 Richard Mytton, of Dinas Mowddwy, esq.
- \*1688 Sir Robt. Owen, of Glyn, knt.
- \*1689 Charles Hughes, of Gwerclas, esq.
- \*1690 John Jones, of Uwchlawr-coed, esq.
- \*1691 John Grosvenor, esq. He died before the expiration of the year, and was succeeded for the remainder of it by Hugh Nanney, of Nanney, esq.
- \*1692 Thomas Owen, of Llynloed, esq.
- \*1693 Owen Wynne, of Pengwern, esq.
- \*1694 Wm. Anwyl, of Dolfeiniog, esq.
- \*1695 Richard Owen, of Peniarth, esq.
- \*1696 John Lloyd, of Aberllefeny, esq.
- \*1697 Howel Vaughan, of Vaner, esq.
- \*1698 Richard Vaughan, of Cors-y-gedol, esq.
- \*1699 Wm. Lewis Anwyl, of Park, esq.
- \*1700 Evan Wynne, of Cwmmine, esq.
- \*1701 John Nanney, of Llanvendiged, esq.
- \*1702 Edward Holland, of Pentre, esq.
- \*1703 David Lloyd, of Hendwr, esq.
- \*1704 Morris Williams, of Hafod-garegog, esq.
- \*1705 John Lloyd, of Rhiwaedog, esq.
- \*1706 Sir William Williams, of Llanvorda, Bart.
- \*1707 Sir Griffith Williams, of Marle, Bart.
- \*1708 John Wynne, of Garthmeilio, esq.
- \*1709 John Vaughan, of Caergai, esq.
- \*1710 Roger Price, of Rhiwlas, esq.
- \*1711 Thomas Meyrick, of Berthtwyd, esq.
- \*1712 Hugh Owen, of Caerberllan, esq.
- \*1713 Wm. Owen, of Glyn, esq.
- \*1714 Wm. Wynn, of Maes-y-neuadd, esq.
- \*1715 Lewis Owen, of Peniarth, esq.
- \*1716 John Evans, of Kystfy, esq.
- \*1717 Richard Weaver, of Corwen, esq.
- \*1718 Griffith Wynne, of Taltreuddyn, esq.
- \*1719 Ellis Jones, of Nantbydyr, esq.
- \*1720 Hugh Hughes, of Gwerclas, esq.
- \*1721 Richard Mytton, of Dinas Mowddwy, esq.
- \*1722 Thomas Price, of Glyn, esq.
- \*1723 David Lloyd, of Bodnant, esq.
- \*1724 Giwn Lloyd, of Hendwr, esq.
- \*1725 Robert Lloyd, of Dolglessyn, esq.
- \*1726 Athelstan Owen, of Rhiwsae-son and Ynys-y-maengwyn, esq.
- \*1727 Wm. Wynn, of Taltreuddyn, esq.
- \*1728 John Nanney, of Maes-y-pandy, esq.
- \*1729 Griffith Roberts, of Blaen-y-Ddol, esq.
- \*1730 Foulk Lloyd, of Kilan, esq.
- \*1731 Wm. Price, of Rhiwlas, esq.
- 1732 Edward Lloyd, of Gwerclas, esq.
- 1733 Hugh Thomas, of Hendre, esq.
- 1734 Robert Wynne, of Maes-y-neuadd, esq.
- 1735 Robert Vaughan, of Hengwrt, esq.
- 1736 John Mytton, of Dinas Mowddwy, esq.
- 1737 Robert Meyrick, of Ulcheldre, esq.
- 1738 Jno. Lloyd, of Rhiwaedog, esq.
- 1739 Richard Anwyl, of Dolfeiriog, esq.
- 1740 Thomas Pryse, of Rûg, esq.
- 1741 Robert Wynne, of Cwmmine, esq.

<sup>1</sup> From about this time, it became the custom to give, annually, a list of the sheriffs in some of the periodical magazines. Nearly a complete series, from 1732 to the present time, will be found in the *Gentleman's Magazine*.

- 1742 Robert Gryffydd, of Tan-y-Bwlch, esq.  
 1743 Maurice Jones, of Ddol, esq.  
 \*1744 Wm. Lewis Anwyl, of Bod-talog, esq.  
 \*1745 Edward Williams, of Peniarth, esq.  
 1746 Robert Parry, of Goppa, esq.  
 1747 Hugh Hughes Lloyd, of Gwerclas, Esq.  
 1748 Owen Wynne, of Pengwern, esq.  
 1749 Owen Holland, of Pentre-mawr, esq.  
 1750 Wm Wynne, of Park, esq., and of Wern, in the county of Caernarvon.  
 1751 Maysmore Maurice, of Rha-gatt, esq.  
 1752 Hugh Vaughan, of Hengwrt, esq.  
 1753 Robert Price, of Caecoch, esq.  
 1754 John Mostyn, of Clegir, esq.  
 1755 Wm. Humffreys, of Maerdy, esq.  
 1756 Richard Owen, of Caethle, esq.  
 1757 Peter Price, of Dolgammedd, esq.  
 1758 Wm. Wynne, of Maes-y-Neuadd, esq.  
 1759 Humphrey Edwards, of Tal-garth, esq.  
 1760 Robert Vaughan Humphreys, of Caerynwch, esq.  
 1761 Lewis Owen, of Caerberllan, esq.  
 1762 Robert Wynne, of Cwmmine, esq.  
 1763 John Mytton, of Dinas Mowddwy, esq.  
 1764 Wm. Lloyd of Rhiwaedog, esq.  
 1765 John Pugh, of Garthmaelan, esq.  
 1766 Edward Vaughan Pugh, of Tygwyn, esq.  
 1767 Thomas Kyffin, of Bryn-yr-Odyn, esq.  
 1768 Robert Godolphin Owen, of Glyn, esq.; and of Porkington, in Shropshire.  
 \*1769 Rice Jas., of Dolgelyn, esq.
- 1770 Evan Gryffydd, of Plas Tan-y-Bwlch, esq.  
 1771 Richard Parry, of Goppa, esq.  
 1772 Wm. Wynne, esq., of Peniarth and Park; and of Wern, in the county of Caernarvon.  
 1773 Lewis Edwards, of Talgarth, esq.  
 \*1774 Thomas Powel, of Bronbiban, esq.  
 1775 Lewis Nanney, of Llwyn, esq.  
 1776 Wm. Williams, of Peniarth-uchaf, esq.  
 1777 John Vaughan, of Dol-y-Melynlyn, esq.  
 1778 Richard Price, of Rhiwlas, esq.  
 1779 Henry Arthur Corbet, of Ynys-y-maengwyn, esq.  
 1780 David Roberts, of Tan-y-gair, esq.  
 1781 Edward Lloyd, of Maesmor, esq.  
 1782 Wm. Humffreys, of Maerdy, esq.  
 1783 Robert Evans, of Bodwenni, esq.  
 1784 Robert Howel Vaughan, of Hafod Owen, esq.  
 1785 John Jones, of Cyffdy, esq.  
 1786 Griffith Price, of Brach-y-ceunant, esq.  
 \*1787 John Jones, of Rhydyfen, esq.  
 \*1788 Griffith Evans, of Cwm-yr-afon, esq.  
 \*1789 Edward Lloyd, of Pale, esq.  
 1790 John Wynne Pugh, of Garth-maelan, esq.  
 1791 Griffith Roberts, of Bodunlliw, esq.  
 1792 Edward Corbet, of Ynes-y-maengwyn, esq.  
 1793 William John Lenthall, of Ucheldre, esq.  
 1794 Owen Ormsby, of Glyn, esq.; and of Porkington, in Shropshire.  
 1795 Robt. Lloyd, of Cefn Coed, esq.  
 \*1796 Sir Edward Pryce Lloyd, of Park, Bart. He was appointed sheriff for this year at the usual time, but on the 19th of March appeared in the *Gazette*, "William Lloyd, of Cwmhusion,

- [Cwmheision — and of Plas Power, in the county Denbigh,] esq., appointed sheriff of the county of Merioneth, *vice* Sir Edward Price Lloyd, Bart.  
 1797 Bell Lloyd, of Tyddyn Llan, esq.  
 1798 Robert Watkin Wynne, of Cwmmine, esq.  
 1799 Sir Thomas Mostyn, of Cors-y-gedol, Bart.; and of Mostyn, in Flintshire.  
 1800 Buckley Hatchett, of Tyn-y-Pwll, esq.  
 1801 J. Passingham, of Hendwr, esq.  
 1802 John Meredydd Mostyn, of Clegir, esq.  
 1803 Jno. Forbes, of Cefnbodig, esq.  
 1804 Sir Edward Pryce Lloyd, of Park, Bart.; and of Pengwern, in Flintshire.  
 1805 John Edwards, of Penrhyn, esq.; and of Greenfields, Machynlleth.<sup>1</sup>  
 \*1806 Hugh Jones, the elder, of Hengwrt Ucha, esq. He was excused from serving the office, and Thomas Jones, esq., then, or afterwards, of Ynys-faig, in the parish of Celynnin, appointed in his stead.  
 1807 R. H. Kenrick, of Ucheldre, esq.  
 1808 Pryce Edwards, of Talgarth, esq.  
 1809 Wm. Davis, of Ty Ucha, esq.  
 1810 John Davies, of Aberllefeny, esq.  
 1811 Hugh Reveley, of Bryn-y-Gwyn, esq.  
 \*1812 Wm. Wynne, of Peniarth, esq.  
 1813 T. Edwards, of Ty Isa, esq.  
 1814 Wm. Gryffydd Oakeley, of Pas Tan-y-Bwlch, esq.  
 1815 Lewis Vaughan, of Penmaen Dovey, esq.  
 1816 John Davies, of Fronheulog, esq.  
 1817 Sir John Evans, of Hendreforfydd, Knt.  
 1818 John Edwards, of Coed-y-Bedw, esq.  
 1819 Edward Owen, of Garthyngharad, esq.  
 1820 Thomas Fitzhugh, of Cwmheision, esq.  
 1821 John Myton, of Dinas Mowddwy, esq.  
 1822 James Gill, of Pant Glas, esq.  
 1823 John Wynne, of Meyerth, esq.  
 1824 Athelstan Corbet, of Ynys-y-maengwyn, esq.  
 1825 Francis Roberts, of Gerddi-blug, esq.  
 1826 Wm. Casson, of Cynfel, esq.  
 1827 Thomas Hartley, of Llwyn, esq.  
 1828 Thomas Casson, of Blaen-y-Ddol, esq.  
 \*1829 Wm. John Bankes, of Dol-y-Moch, esq.  
 \*1830 Jones Panton, of Llwyn-gwern, esq.  
 \*1831 Hugh Lloyd, of Cefnbodig, esq.  
 \*1832 Wm. Turner, of Croesor, esq.  
 \*1833 George Jonathan Scott, of Peniarth Uchaf, esq.  
 \*1834 Charles Gray Harford, of Bryntirion, esq.  
 \*1835 John Henry Lewis, of Dolgûn, esq.  
 \*1836 John Ellerker Boulcott, of Hendre Issa, esq.  
 \*1837 Sir Robt. Williams Vaughan, of Nannau, Bart.  
 \*1838 John Manners Kerr, of Plas Issa, esq.; a general in the army.  
 \*1839 Hon. Edward Mostyn Lloyd Mostyn, of Cors-y-gedol.  
 \*1840 George Price Lloyd, of Plas-yndre, Bala, esq.  
 \*1841 John Williams, of Bron-eryri, esq.  
 \*1842 Hon. Thomas Pryce Lloyd, of Mochras.  
 \*1843 Owen Jones Ellis Nanney, of Cefndeuddwr, esq.  
 \*1844 David White Griffith, of Sygun, esq.

<sup>1</sup> Now, (1847,) Sir John Edwards, Bart.

\*1845 Richard Watkin Price, of Rhiwlas, esq.

\*1846 Sir Robt. Williames Vaughan, of Nannau, Bart.

\*1847 John Griffith Griffith, of Tal-treuddyn Fawr, esq.; and of Llanfair, in the county of Caernarvon.

The arms of the county of Merioneth, as given at the head of this communication, are from a manuscript, formerly, and probably now, at Dolforan, in Montgomeryshire. They are, Azure; three goats salient, Argent; bearded horned and footed, Or; in the field, dexter base point, a rising sun of the third.

Feb. 27th, 1847.

W. W. E. W.

## ANTIQUITATES PAROCHIALES.

### No. V.

TREF-JOSSETH, *vulgo*  
TREV-ASSETH.

TREF-JOSSETH, COMMONLY CALLED  
TREV-ASSETH.

HÆC villula cujusdam Josephi præ se nomen fert. Terra hæc prisca Britonum lege libera est ex Rotulis Extentæ (Schedulæ Inquisitionum collectæ hi rotuli sunt, ex quibus consutus Extente Codex conficitur) in duo allodia dispertita cognoscitur: primo in allodium vel wele Dafydd Gwynn, quod eo tempore Howelus ap Gwynn solus tenuit, pro redditu quotannis solvens 12 solidos cum 2 denariis. Alterum vero allodium tunc dictum Wele Dafydd ap Iorwerth, tenentibus ibidem Ryrido et Dafydd Llwyd, Griffino ap Dafydd ap Iorwerth aliisque cohaeredibus, qui annuatim fisco regis 12 reddiderunt solidos cum 2 denariis; omnesque cohaeredes hujus villæ sectam ad molendinum de Rhossir, et opus manerii facere conseruerunt, pro quo libet relvio et amobro 10 solidos persolventes: ad cursum stalonis, cum princeps ad manerium veniret, ob eundum eorum villani tenebantur.

Ex hoc ad proxima nobis tempora, alternatis quibus nescio vicibus, possessio hujus villæ ad familiam Llangwyvensem devoluta est, cui per aliquot annos e re fuit. Domum habet a quodam Petro Johnson concinne extructum, qui mercatoriam ibi ali-

THIS little township bears the name of one Joseph. The land under the ancient law of the Britons is free, as appears from the rolls of the Extent, (these rolls are a collection of the schedules of inquisitions, from which, when collected together, the codex of the Extent has been formed,) and is known to have been divided into two allodies; first, into the allody or wele of Dafydd Gwyn, which was held at that time by Howel ap Gwyn alone, who paid twelve shillings and twopence as annual rent. The other allody was then called Wele Dafydd ap Iorwerth, being held by Ririd ap Dafydd Llwyd, Griffin ap Dafydd ap Iorwerth, and other coheirs, who paid twelve shillings and twopence into the royal treasury. And all the coheirs of this township were wont to do suit at the mill of Rhossir, and to perform manorial work, paying for every relief and amobrum ten shillings. Their villains were bound to attend to their course of stalonage whenever the prince arrived at his manor.

Henceforward, down to the times nearest our own, the possession of this township, by some alterations or other, devolved to the Llangwyven

quamdiu exercuit officinam, non ita pridem habitatam: ex hac familia ad Boldianam de Tre'r Ddol erecta est haec villula: nulla ibi mora; ad Meiricianam de Bodorgan jam iterum delapsa ibi sese figit. Dominus enim Audoenus Bold, vir omnibus qui norant in amore et honore, hanc terram nepoti suo Audoeno Meiric de Bodorgan cum toto heredio legavit, cuius nunc ex asse est, et colonis pro uno tenemento elocatur.

family, which owned it for several years. It has a house, neatly built by one Peter Johnson, who kept a shop there for some time, but it has not been so inhabited of late. From this family the little township came into that of Bold of Tre'r Ddol, but did not remain there long; and having passed into that of Meiric of Bodorgan, it has there remained. For Mr. Owen Bold, a man had in love and honour of all who knew him, bequeathed this land, with all its inheritance, to his nephew, Owen Meiric, of Bodorgan, who is now the proprietor of the whole; and it is let to the farmers as one tenement.

#### RHANDIR GADOG.

PROXIMA ad orientem praecedenti terrae est villa, quae vocatur, Rhandir Gadog, i.e., comportio cuiusdam Cadoci, quae unum duntaxat in Extenta Regia complectitur allodium, nempe Wele Simwnt ap Gwilmot, quod tunc temporis Griffinus ap Dafydd ap Gryffydd Vychan, solus tenens, possidebat. Terra jam inde estimatur libera, et sub se nativos aliquot mancipavit vassalos, qui Gwili-mo ap Griffydd ap Gwilym de Pen-mynydd praetio pre manibus soluto, juxta barbariem gentis, erant venundati, ut supra innueram. Ad ville statum quod attinet, redditus fiscalis ex hac proveniens olim 7 solidis et 4 denariis constabat, Principiique quotannis solutus est; verum consuetudine et usu tenus, sectam ad Comitatum et Hundredum, pro relevio decem solidos ac totidem pro amobro, cum acciderint, persolvere tenebantur, secundumque ad molendinum newydd, tam liberi tenentes quam nativi hujus villae: tenentes vero liberi ad tricesimum vas (emolumentum pro grano conterendo erat) et nativi ad vicesimum quintum, theolonio conficiunt. Hi olim redditus; haec consuetudo; omnia hujusmodi, jam rebus immutatis, fere prorsus exoleverunt. Multis ab hinc annis haec terra Willimo de

#### RHANDIR GADOG.

Next to the preceding territory eastward is the small township of Rhandir Gadog, that is, the portion of Cadoc; which, in the royal Extent, comprehends only one allody, namely, the Wele of Simwnt ap Gwilmot, which at that time was possessed by Griffin ap Dafydd ap Gryffydd Vychan, sole tenant. From thenceforth the land is reckoned free, and it has with itself conveyed the right of several vassals, who had been sold to Gwilym ap Griffydd ap Gwilym, of Penmynydd, the price being paid into his hands, according to the barbarous usage of the nation, as I have before signified. With respect to the state of the township, the fiscal rent arising out of it formerly amounted to seven shillings and fourpence, and was paid yearly to the prince; but by custom and usage they were bound to do suit at the county and hundred courts, paying ten shillings for a relief, and as many for an amobrum, whenever such might happen; and both the free tenants and natives of this township were to perform service at the new mill. The free tenants, however, pay as toll one measure in every thirty, (which was the fee for grinding the corn,) and the natives

la Wood, qui in hac insula plurina conquisivit latifundia vel emptionibus vel Regis donatione (confiscationum in hoc agro inquisitor erat) e re sua competabat, Laribusque Llangwyvensibus per multos annos conserviit, usque ad mortem abnepotis hujus Willimi de la Wood, viz., domini Johannis Wood, qui domino Audoeno Bold serius dicto, ejus ex sorore nepoti, hanc terram legavit; illeque jam recens conscriptus haeres suo ibidem ex sorore nepoti, domino Audoeno Meirick de Bodorgan, citius reliquit, usufructu interim hujus cum praecedenti terra, per aliquot annos ad sorores dicti Audoeni Meirick nuptum locandas disposito, haereditum jurisque ascriptio sibi impræsentiam omnino sunt.

one in twenty-five. This was the rent formerly; this the custom; but all things of this sort have now grown entirely out of use, the payments being altered. Many years ago this territory belonged to William de la Wood, who acquired many and large possessions in the island, either by purchase or by royal gift, (he was inquisitor of confiscations in this district,) and it was subject to the Llangwyven family for many years, even until the decease of this William de la Wood's great grandson, namely, Mr. John Wood, who bequeathed this land to Mr. Owen Bold, recently mentioned, his sister's son. And he being just constituted heir, left it again in like manner to Mr. Owen Meiric, of Bodorgan, his sister's son; and whilst in the mean time the usufruct of this, with the former land, has been for several years apportioned as a marriage portion to the sisters of the said Owen Meiric, the inheritance and claim of right are at present exclusively his own.

#### TREV-IRWYDD VEL TRE-VERWYDD.

VILLA haec an ab ethnico quercus enutriendi ritu nomen ascivit, affirmare nemo qui ausus est, surculos enim et propagines illius venerandæ arboris nostro idiomate, viz. Ir-wydd, ad lucos colendos maxime Druidibus e religione esse, notum est, et cum Druides olim catervatim hunc in locum convolaverunt, scholas et tribunalia constituerunt, ut alibi rem palam explicui; ille vix a verisimili videbiter ab ludere, qui hanc villam ab eorum ritibus et quercuum seminariis eo loco consitis, nomen mutuare sagerit; sed conjecturis et verisimilimis missis, ad apertiora et notiora rem defero. In extente Delvianæ codice, qui auctoritate sua assensum premit, videtur hanc villulam a quodam Merwytho nomen suum accepisse, indeque Tre-Merwydd vel Tre-Verwydd, V pro M, ut syntaxi Britannica frequens est. Ex

#### TREV-IRWYDD OR TRE-VERWYD.

Whether or not this township obtained its name from the pagan rite of rearing the oak nobody has ventured to say, for it is known that the shoots and slips of that venerated tree, which in our language are called Ir-wydd, were according to the religion of the Druids very much used by them in their grove-worshipping. And since the Druids formerly fled in crowds into this place and established schools and tribunals, as I have elsewhere clearly explained, it would appear that he could scarcely be wrong, who should maintain that this township borrowed its name from their rites, and the nurseries of oak trees planted in the place. Leaving, however, conjectures and probabilities aside, I proceed to matters more clear and known. In the codex of the Delvian Extent, which by its own authority claims our assent, it

authentico illo scripto videmus hanc villam pro terra nativa, i.e. villanicas sortis computari, quatuor allodia suo gremio complectentem, viz: primum allodium vocatum fuit Wele Madoc ap Merwydd, in quo Evanus ddu ap Madoc, Dafydd ap Dafydd, aliquie cohæredes, jus possidendi suum eo tempore exigebant, redabantque inde Domino Regi 8 denarios, supra 9 solidos, per annum. Secundum allodium dictum fuit Wele Iorwerth ap Merwydd, in quo solus Mereduthus ap Llowarch, qui annuatim fisco regis 8 solidos et 9 denarios pro redditu solvebat: in hoc allodio duo boviatus domini Regis pro Escheta aestimantur. Tertium allodium nominatum erat Wele Llowarch ap Merwydd, ubi Bleddy ap Madoc, Madoc ap Dafydd, aliquie cohæredes, suas terras possidebant, reddentes inde domino Regi quolibet anno 8 solidos et 9 denarios. Quartum allodium vocatum fuit Wele Gweli Saint Ffraid a domino Rege pro Escheta resumptum, cuius annui redditus 8 solidi et 9 denarii, terræ enim pro Escheta resumptæ continebant per aestimationem sesquiquartam partem totius ville. Tenentes vero horum quatuor allodiorum ex antiqua lege sectam fecere ad molendinum novum, vulgo, melin newydd apud Rhossir; et solvere consuevere pro quolibet relevio decem solidos, totidemque pro quilibet amobro, cum acciderint, et ad cursus stalonis Rhaglottique preferendos cum advenerint, obstricti; opusque manerii de Rhossir una cum aliis hujus comoti villanis, ut solens erat, illis conficiendum incubuit. Ad nostra pene tempora per horum tenentium successores ære illo pro illis solito soluto [i.e. paying the old rent] hæc allodia pervenerunt: quum eorum duo, superiori seculo, allodia domino Richardo Prytherch de Myfyrion, duoque reliqua uni ex antiquis tenentibus, prætio soluto, vendita sunt, ex quibus omnes fere hujus villæ terræ venditionibus nuperis domini Piercei Lloyd dicti, Richardi ap

appears that this little township had received its name from one Merwyth, from whence was formed Tre Merwydd or Tre Verwydd, the M being changed into V, as is frequently the case in British syntax. From that authentic document we see that the township in question was considered a native land, i.e. of a villain condition, comprehending four allodies, viz., the first allody was called Wele Madog ap Merwydd, in which Evan Ddu ap Madog, Dafydd ap Dafydd, and other coheirs claimed at that time their right of possession, and they paid out of it to the king nine shillings and eight pence a year. The second allody was called Wele Iorwerth ap Merwydd, and was possessed by Meredydd ap Llowarch alone, who paid annually into the royal treasury eight shillings and nine pence for rent; in this allody two boviates are escheated to the king. The third allody was designated Wele Llowarch ap Merwydd, where Bleddy ap Madog, Madog ap Dafydd, and other coheirs possessed their lands, paying to the king the annual rent of eight shillings and nine pence. The fourth allody was called Wele Gwely Saint Ffraid, resumed as an escheat by the king, of the annual rent of eight shillings and nine pence; for the lands resumed as escheats were estimated as containing more than the fourth part of the whole township. The tenants of these four allodies performed their suit, in accordance with an ancient law, at the new mill, commonly called Melin Newydd, at Rhossir, and were wont to pay ten shillings for every relief, and the like sum for every amobrum, whenever those happened; they were bound also to attend to their courses of stalonage and Rhaglot whenever their turns came, and to work on the manor of Rhossir, together with other villains of this commot, as was usual.

These allodies have come down to nearly our own times through the

Rhydderch pronepotis e re sunt, et tenentibus ad libitum elocantur. Terra est grani et graminis colonorum industria satis benigna, cui palustres cespites in cineres redacti, focum sibi exhilarantes et glebam refocillantes, maximo in prælio sunt.

Termini hujus villæ ab accolis designati, percurruntur, incipiendo a Sarn Dudur per communem viam ad Penyr orsedd; exinde per regiam viam ad Maen-lôn-y-Marian; ex qua per idem lôn ad paludem de Malltraeth, ubi limes, per aquas ibi stagnantes, divergit ad Ynys-y-garreg; exinde ad Cruglas; hinc ad Ty pen y bryn; inde per communem viam ad Cae'r beddau; exinde per eandem viam ad Ynys-ferw; a qua per fossam aquatilem ad Sarn Dudur.

successors of those tenants, paying the old rent; when in the last century two of them were sold to Mr. Richard Prydderch, of Myfyrion, and the remaining two to one of the old tenants; and by recent sales almost all the lands of this township have become the property of Mr. Pierce Lloyd, grand nephew of Richard ap Rhydderch, and are let to tenants at will. The land has been rendered by the industry of the farmers sufficiently productive of corn and pasture; and its peat reduced into ashes, as it both cheers the hearth and manures the ground, is peculiarly valuable.

The boundaries of this township, as they are marked by the inhabitants, are run over by starting at Sarn Dudur and proceeding along the public road as far as Pen-yr-Orsedd; from thence by the high road to Maen-lôn-y-Marian; from thence by the same lôn to Malltraeth Marsh, where the boundary diverges through some stagnant water to Ynys-y-Garreg; from thence to Cruglas; thence to Ty-pen-y-bryn; from there by the public road to Cae'r-Beddau; from thence by the same road to Ynys-Ferw, and from that place by a ditch of water to Sarn Dudur.

#### TRE-DDINAM.

A quo etymo huic villæ nomen erat, non otium rimari nec multum interest; forte (absque exceptione) quod nostra vernacula Dinam sonat insigne aliquid, olim ei competebat; si ab hinc minime traductum iri a quo alio non moror: rem vero altius repetere veteri Britanorum regime, hæc ejusmodi nature prædicatur, ut præterquam quod nativa erat, hoc ultra in Extenta notandum, scil. etsi non nisi unus tenens in hac villula fuerit, ipsem redditu integro onerari debuerat: quot autem allodia olim continebat, in Extenta altum silentium: notatum tantum ibi

#### TRE-DDINAM.

From what etymon this township derived its name we have no leisure to enquire, nor does it much matter. Perhaps, and by way of exception, because *Dinam* in our native language signifies "something remarkable,"<sup>1</sup> it was formerly suited to it; but it is no matter to me if it be not derived from this by anybody else. To examine into the matter, however, rather more deeply from the ancient custom of the Britons, this township may be said to be of that nature, because besides its being native, this circumstance is moreover

<sup>1</sup> *Dinam* means "without exception," or "certain."—EDD. ARCH. CAMBR.

quod pro quolibet relevio dimidium marcæ, tantumque pro quolibet amo- bro tenentibus solvendum incubuit. Sectam ad molendinum de Rhossir et ad molendinum, vulgo, melin newydd solvere tenebantur; cursumque staloni- nis et Rhaglotti, opera molendinorum novi et de Rhossir perferre consueverunt tenentes; opusque manerii Rhos- siriani cum aliis commotis nativis, scil., clausuram circa manerium et partem suam capellæ domini principis apud Rhossir, et omnia quæ ad mol- lentina de Rhossir et newydd, perti- nebant, nempe vecturam maharemii et molarium (ita loquitur Extenta de lignis lapidibusque molendinariis) cum omnibus hujusmodi necessariis, præter officium, i.e. opus, fabri lig- narii, hujus villæ tenentes subire soliti sunt.

Hic vero non abs re fore existimem si, rebus his aliquam lucem adferendi gratia antiquis, chartem illam Nord- wallis hominibus ab Hen. septimo concessam, quæ perpaucis teritur manibus, paulo diutius subjungere immorarer; qua perfecta, quivis con- suetudinum veterum larvata quasi umbracula, per concessionum rimas, jam tum peritura, perspexerit.

observable in the Extent, namely, suppose there was only a single tenant in this little township in question, he ought to be burdened with the entire rent. As to the number of allodies, however, which it formerly contained, the Extent maintains a profound silence; it is only noticed there that it was incumbent upon the tenants to pay for every relief half a mark, and as much for every amo- brum. The tenants were bound to do suit at the mill of Rhossir, and at the mill commonly called Melin Newydd, and were wont to attend to their respective courses of stalon and Rhaglot, to the work of the new and Rhossir mills. And the tenants of this little township, with other natives of the commot, were accustomed to do the work of the manor of Rhossir, that is to say, to attend to the fence around the manor and their own portion of the prince's chapel at Rhossir, and all things which appertained to the Rhossir and new mills; namely, the carriage of timber for building, and the molarium, (which term the Extent uses to denote wood and stone for the mill,) with all necessities of this sort, besides [query, except?] the office or employment of a car- penter.

I cannot think it alien to the purpose here, if, for the sake of throwing some light upon these ancient matters, I tarry a little longer to subjoin the charter which was given to the North Wales men by Henry VII., and which is in but very few hands. On perusing it any one may see, as it were, the ghostly shadows of old customs, through the chinks of grants, even then about to perish.

SEAL OF THE COLLEGE, OR PECULIAR, OF  
STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

FOUND NEAR DENBIGH.



THE seal, of which an accurate engraving is given above, through the liberality of Joseph Ablett, Esq., of Llanbedr Hall, Ruthin, was found in a house formerly inhabited by Mr. Llwyd. It is now noticed, not on account of any connexion with the principality, but from the circumstances of its having been found on Welsh ground, and of its fine preservation. The impression, from which the engraving was made, is of exactly the same size, and so perfect as to appear comparatively recent; nothing, however, is known as to how it came into Wales, nor what document it was appended to. A full account of the college and church of Stratford-on-Avon, more satisfactory indeed than that given in Dugdale's *Monasticon*, (new edition,) vol. 6, part 3, p. 1471, will be found in Neale and Lekeux's *Collegiate and Parochial Churches*, vol. 2; and to that work, as well as to Dugdale's *Warwickshire*, we refer our readers. It will be sufficient for the explanation of the device of the seal to give the following extract:—

“This church was originally a rectory, in the patronage of the bishops of Worcester, in whose diocese it is situate; and was purchased in the tenth year of Edward III., anno 1337, of Simon Montacute, the then bishop, by John de Stratford, Archbishop of Canterbury, and presented to the chantry which he had previously

founded in the chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr, adjoining the south aisle of the church, which aisle he rebuilt at his own expense. The chantry consisted of five priests, of whom the warden and sub-warden were perpetual, while the others were elected and removed at the warden's pleasure. Many privileges and immunities were procured for it, by the archbishop, from Edward III.; and the founder, with other benevolent persons, settled various revenues upon it, arising from property in Stratford and other places. In the year 1353, Ralph de Stratford, Bishop of London, and nephew of the archbishop, erected a large substantial mansion of stone, afterwards called the college, adjoining to the western side of the church-yard, as a residence for the priests.

"To the workmen engaged in this building, consisting of ten carpenters and ten masons, with their servants, special protection was granted by the king's letters patent, until the edifice should be finished. An ample charter, with many additional privileges, was granted to the priests by Henry V., in the first year of his reign; and at some period in the reign of that monarch, it acquired the title of a *Collegiate Church*; for in the first year of Henry VI., anno 1423, Richard Praty, afterwards Bishop of Chichester, was appointed warden, by the style of 'Dean of the Collegiate Church.' Thomas Balsall, D.D., who was appointed dean in 1465, rebuilt the beautiful choir of the church, as it now exists; and dying in 1491, was succeeded by Ralph Collingwode, D.D., and Dean of Lichfield; who, desirous of giving full effect to the work commenced by his predecessor, instituted, with the assent of Sylvester Gyges, then Bishop of Worcester, four boy choristers, nominated and admitted by the warden, to be daily assisting in the celebration of divine service in the church, and for whose maintenance he conveyed to the foundation certain lands in Stratford, Drayton, and Binton, all in Warwickshire.

"The college had not long been thus completed and endowed, when the celebrated *Valor Ecclesiasticus* was made, in 1535, by order of Henry VIII.; in which it was valued, together with the church, at the annual sum of £128. 9s. 1d.; and in the survey taken at the suppression, in 1546, their value was certified at nearly the same amount. On the dissolution of the college, the church was erected into a vicarage, with the jurisdiction of a peculiar; and it continued in the gift of the succeeding Bishops of Worcester, as lords of the manor of Stratford, until the third year of Edward VI., when Nicholas Heath, at that time bishop, sold it to John Dudley, Earl of Warwick, afterwards Duke of Northumberland, upon whose attainder by Queen Mary, it came to the crown, and was presented to by the succeeding lords of the manor."

The episcopal figure in this seal is probably that of Thomas à Becket, the patron saint of the Chantry; more especially as he seems to wear the pallium over his robes. Beneath is a shield of arms, on a fesse six crosses (?) The

legend is S' PECULIAR JURISDICTōNE D'STRETFORD SUP AVANE. From this it might be inferred that the seal belonged to the Peculiar of Stratford, after the dissolution of the college at the time of the great spoliation; but the workmanship of the seal indicates the 15th century, and perhaps the reign of Henry V.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN SIR JOHN BLUET, KNT.  
AND WILLIAM MARTELL. TEMP. EDW. I.

The following is a copy of a very curious document of the reign of Edward I. The original is quite perfect, with the seal attached, bearing the arms of Sir John Bluet, viz.: Or, an eagle displayed, Vert. The manor of Langston is about four miles from Newport, in the county of Monmouth, and was holden by the Bluets as one knight's fee, under the great lordship of Caerleon. This branch of a family ended in an heiress, Elenor, daughter of a John Bluet, whose son, Philip Baynard, sold the estate in 1383. The Martells were lords of Llanviangel, Rogeat, and Llanwaches, in the same neighbourhood. John Martell, probably the father of the William, party to this deed, was living in 1270. This family also seems to have ended in an heiress soon after:—

An du rengne le Roy Edward  
fiz le Roy Hen̄ vintenne t quint  
ssi accounte p ent<sup>e</sup> Sire Johan  
Bluet Chevaler t Wyllame Martel  
Cest a saver qe le dist Johan  
Bluet reconust pur lui t ces  
heyrz sey est<sup>e</sup> tenuz a l vaundit  
Wyllame Martel seon vallet  
a toute la vye memes celui Wylliame  
en seisante souz de Argente de bone  
moneye t de leale  
a retinere de an en an a deus  
termes al Hockeday t la feste  
Seint Michel de seon maner de  
Langeston en Netherwent cest  
a saver des teres t des tenemēs  
qe Waut<sup>r</sup> le Swon, Johan le fiz  
Thomas, Roberd le Joevene Ames  
Le Swon, t Aliz Ketyn de lui  
tenēt en la more de Langeston ssi

In the year of the reign of  
King Edward, son of King  
Henry, one score and five, it was  
thus agreed between Sir John  
Bluet, knight, and William Martel,  
that is to say, that the said  
John Bluet acknowledges for  
himself and his heirs to be bound  
to the aforesaid William Martel,  
his esquire, for the life of the said  
William, in sixty pence of silver  
of good and lawful money, to be  
paid yearly and every year at the  
two terms of Hockday, (i.e. the  
second Tuesday after Easter  
week,) and Michaelmas, out of  
his manor of Langston in Nether-  
went, that is to say, out of the  
lands and tenements that Walter  
le Swon, John Fitz Thomas,

qe le vaunddit Wylliame ou son certayn atturne les avaunddis tene-mēs p<sup>r</sup> la vaundite rente lever a lur volûte en quens mayns qe memes ceus tenemēs devenēt peussent destreinder saunz contredit de nully e teles destrestes en seon park fermement tener ieskies taunt qe de menes cele rente seit ppaye. En eusement deus Robes p an p's de qua vaunt souz de sa chaumbre a toute la vye le devaunddit Wylliame la une a Nowel 't laut<sup>e</sup> a pentecouste. E a sustenir le devaunddit Will' taunt come il vivera en manger e en beovere avenaumente come a gental homme a peut. E ces deus garsuns. E a traner a ces deus chevaus feyn 't aveine 't litere 't ferure a toute la vye memes celui Wylliame cest a saver chesaine mith<sup>1</sup> un bussel de aveine. E pur cest ben fet le devaunddit Wylliame Martel servira le dist Johan Bluet ben a lealment come a vallet a peut en la guerre mue p entre le Roy de Engletere 't le Roy de Ffraunce. E ausi en Engletere si guerre nule sourde qe deu deffende 't en Gales 't en totes teres de sa la meer 't de la la meer la ou seon cors demeyne y est hors p's la tere seinte. E en tornemens en tens de pees od en graunt chevall de Armes le quel le dist Johan lui t'vera 't armure bone 't avenaunte sauns nule defaute p seon ters. E a greynnur seurte fere pur cest covaunnt en la fourme sus escritre ben 't lealment tener le vaunddit

Robert le Joevene, Ann le Swon, and Alice Ketyng hold of him in the moor of Langston, so that the aforesaid William, or his certain attorney, may levy the said rent by distress upon the said tenuements in whosoever hands they may be, at their will and pleasure, without let or hindrance from any one, and such distress securely keep till such time as the said rent be duly paid; and also two Robes yearly of the value of twenty pence from his chamber during the life of the said William, one at Christmas and the other at Easter; and maintain the said William as long as he lives in sufficient meat and drink as a gentleman ought to have, and his two boys, (servants,) and to find his two horses in hay and oats and shoes during the life of the said William, that is to say, *half a bushel of oats each.*<sup>1</sup> And for these advantages the said William Martel will serve the said John Bluet well and faithfully as an esquire ought to do, in the wars now wageing between the King of England and the King of France; and also in England if war should break out there, which God forbid, and in Wales, and in all other lands either on this side the sea, or beyond the sea, wherever the said John shall be (except the Holy Land;) and in tournauments, in time of peace, with a great war-horse which the said John will find him, and good and suitable armour with-

<sup>1</sup> The original is not very clear, and it seems uncertain whether we should read "*Chesaine Mith*" or "*Chesaine Nith*"; in either case the meaning is obscure and the expression new to the translator, who leaves it to the reader's judgement. [It may be rendered in modern French, "chacun la moitié d'un boisseau d'avoine." *Mith* may be an abbreviation for *Mi*, or mi-part, the half part, or moiety, or moitié.—EDD. ARCH. CAMB.]

Johan Bluet oblige lui & ces heyrs & ces exseceturs & totes ces teres & tenemens qu il aveit en Engleter & en Gales le jour de la confeton de cest escripte en ky mayns qe il devenderunt en tens en avaunt. E ausi en la destreste des seneschaus & des mareschaws nre Seyngnur le Roy de Engleter. E des Baillifs de la fraunchise de Kaelron ky qe il seyent si il en nul poynt defaillett des covenauanz s<sup>e</sup> nomes. E si nul de chevaus le devaunddit Wylliam en tens de pees ou de guerre en le service le vaunt nome Johan Bluet seit periz le dist Johan Bluet oblige lui & ces heirs & ces exsekuturs plenemēt de les restorer. En telkmon<sup>d</sup> de quele chose les pties s<sup>e</sup> nomees entre chaungablement a cest esc<sup>t</sup> pti mis lur ceaus Par y ces Tewmoynes Sire Joan ap Adam, Sire Thomas de Coudray, Sire Joan de Knovyle, Rouf de la Grave, Joan de Howel & autres. Done a Cilest<sup>e</sup> le Jeur Seint Laurens, an du rengne nost<sup>e</sup> seyngnur le Roy Edward vintenne & quint.

out any default on his part ; and for the greater security for the due performance of the covenants above written, the said John Bluet binds himself and his heirs and executors, and all the lands and tenements in England and Wales which he holds on the day of the completion of this writing, in whose hands soever they may be in time to come ; and also that he may be distrained upon by the stewards or marshalls of our lord the King of England or the bailiffs of the liberties of Caerleon, whosoever they may be, if he in any manner make default in the above named covenants. And if any of the horses of the aforesaid William, either in time of peace or of war, should perish in the service of the said John Bluet, the said John Bluet binds himself, his heirs, and executors, fully to restore them. In testimony of which the parties hereto have interchangeably affixed their seals as witnesses, Sir John ap Adam, Sir Thomas de Cowdray, Sir John de Knovyle, Ralph de la Grave, John de Howel, and others, given at Cilchester, on the Feast of St. Lawrence, in the year of the reign of our lord King Edward, one score and five, (10th August, 1297.)

The three knights who were witnesses to this agreement, were neighbours of the parties in Gwent, as were probably the others. As the deed was executed so far from home as Silchester, it is probable that these Welsh gentlemen and their followers formed part of a detachment of troops *en route* to France.

THOS. WAKEMAN.

Graig, Monmouth, Feb. 1st, 1847.

BULL OF POPE MARTIN V.,  
 ADDRESSED TO THE ABBOT OF MARGAM,  
 GLAMORGANSHIRE, A.D. 1422.

{The following unpublished MS., relating to a celebrated monastic establishment in Glamorganshire, has been obligingly communicated to us by one of the most eminent antiquaries of that county.]

MARTINUS episcopus servus servorum  
 Dei dilecto Abbatii monasterii de Mar-  
 gan Landavensis diocesios salutem et  
 amplissimam benedictionem. Signi-  
 ficaverunt nobis dilecti filii Abbas et  
 conventus monasterii Beate Marie de  
 Neoth Cistercensis ordinis, Landav-  
 ensis diocesios, quod nonnulli iniqui-  
 tatis filii quos prorsus ignorant nemora  
 ipsius monasterii decidere et arbores  
 abscindere, ac asportare, neenon  
 decimas fructus redditus proventus  
 emolumenta libros calices ornamenta  
 ecclesiastica, et nonnulla alia bona ad  
 dictum monasterium spectantia tem-  
 mere et malitiose occultare detinere  
 presumant, non curantes ea prefatis  
 Abbatii et Conventui exhibere, in ani-  
 marum suarum periculum ipsumque  
 Abbatis et Conventus et monasterii  
 non modicum detrimentum, super quo  
 iudem Abbas et Conventus apostolice  
 sedis remedium implorant. Quo circa  
 discretioni tue per apostolica scripta  
 mandamus, quatenus omnes hujus-  
 modi occultos asportatores et deten-  
 tores decimarum, fructum redditum  
 proventuum et aliorum bonorum pre-  
 dictorum et scientes ea occulte deti-  
 nere, ex parte nostra, publice in eccl-  
 esias coram populo per te vel alium  
 moneas ut infra competentem terminum  
 quem eis prefixeris, ea prefatis  
 Abbatii et conventui a se debita resu-  
 mant et revelent, ac de ipsis plenam  
 et debitem satisfactionem impendant,  
 et si id non implevarint infra alium  
 competentem terminum quem eis ad  
 hoc peremptorie duxeris prefigendum,  
 extunc in eos generalem excommuni-

MARTIN,<sup>1</sup> the bishop, the servant  
 of the servants of God, to the be-  
 loved Abbot of the monastery of  
 Margan,<sup>2</sup> in the diocese of Llandaff,  
 health and the fullest benediction.  
 Our beloved sons the Abbot and Con-  
 vent of the monastery of the blessed  
 Mary of Neath,<sup>3</sup> of the Cistercian  
 order, in the diocese of Llandaff,  
 have signified to us that certain sons  
 of iniquity, of whose persons they  
 are entirely ignorant, presume to  
 enter the woods of the said monas-  
 tery, to cut down and carry off the  
 trees, and rashly and maliciously to  
 conceal and secretly to detain tithes,  
 fruits, rents, proceeds, emoluments,  
 books, chalices, and ecclesiastical  
 ornaments and other goods, not  
 caring to produce the same to the  
 aforesaid the Abbot, Convent, and  
 monastery; on which ground the  
 said Abbot and Convent implore red-  
 dress of the Second See. Therefore,  
 by our apostolic writings, we submit  
 to your discretion, that on our part  
 in the churches before the people,  
 by yourself or some other person,  
 you admonish these aforesaid car-  
 niers-away and detainers of tithes,  
 fruits, rents, proceeds, and other  
 aforesaid goods, they knowingly de-  
 taining these things in a hidden  
 manner, that within a competent  
 time you shall name to them, they  
 restore and reveal the things owed  
 to the said Abbot and convent, and  
 give full and due satisfaction for the  
 same; and if they shall not fulfil this  
 within another competent time,

<sup>1</sup> The legend on the leaden seal appended is MARTINUS PP. V.

<sup>2</sup> The name is thus spelt till the period of the Reformation, since which it is termed Margam.

<sup>3</sup> Sic in orig. In the old charters it is usually spelt Neth, and such is the case in the Bull of Boniface IX., recently published in Mr. Francis' *History of Neath Abbey*.

cationis sententiam proferas, et eam facias ubi et quando expediri videris usque ad satisfactionem condignam solemniter publicari.

Dat. Rome apud Sanctum Petrum iij. die Aprilis Pontificatus nostri anno sexto.

Pro N. de Genesano.  
P. de WARTENBERG.

which you shall think fit peremptorily to name to them, then you shall proceed with a general sentence of excommunication, and promulgate the same when and where it may seem expedient to you, until sufficient satisfaction be made public.

Given at Rome, at St. Peter's, the third day of April, the sixth year of our Pontificate.

Pro N. de Genesano.  
P. de WARTENBERG.

### PROCEEDINGS

BEFORE THE COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED BY THE LORDS OF  
THE LORDSHIP OF BROMFIELD AND YALE, AND STATUTES  
AND ORDINANCES MADE AT THE GREAT COURT OF THAT  
LORDSHIP, HOLDEN AT CASTLE LEON,

ANNO 7<sup>o</sup> EDW. IV., A.D. 1467.

#### No. I.

THE following transcript of a valuable and highly curious MS. has been kindly put at our disposal for publication by the Ven. R. Newcome, Archdeacon of Merioneth. It is too long to admit of our printing it, except in consecutive parts: and it is too important to allow of any portion being omitted.

For a full and interesting account of the Castrum Leonis, or Castle Leon, or more properly Castell Lleon, (Castrum Legionis,) Holt Castle, Denbighshire, where the Great Court was held, the reader is referred to Pennant's *Tour*, vol. ii. p. 205, edit. 4to, 1778.

#### BROMFELD ET YALE.

CURIA magna tenta apud comunem locum juxta Castrum Leonis coram Wifmo Stanley milite Jacobo Hubert Ričo Fulmerston et Georgio Hoton Comissionař et Consiliař Johannis Ducis Norf ac Georgio Nevyll Wiffo Skotte et Ričo Jakes Comissioni Edward Nevyll Militis Domini Bergevenny Dominoř Domini de Bromfeld et Yale: Auctoritate lrāž patenč dčoř Dominoř ad divers Insurcōes Feloň transgressioň ac alia malefact̄ quecumq; infra dčm Dominiū qualifcumq; fac̄t et ppetrat' audiend et terminand ac ad omnia et singla pro comodo et honore dčoř dnoř facienđ ordinand

disponend et exequend Die lune p̄x post festum sc̄i luce Ēngtie anno regni Regis Edward quarti post Conquestum Anglie septimo.

Ad hanc Cuř Tenentes et inhitanes Raglie de Merford et Wrixham exacti sunt et compuerunt. Q. Tenentes et inhitanes Raglie de Yale exacti sunt et compuerunt.

Q modo ad hanc Cuř pp̄t Reformatiōem et correcōem qm p̄tu-  
rioz magnoz et enormoř Rebellionū pdit' feloř murdř transgressiō  
extorconū oppressionū conventiclaž ac alioz malefactoř quožcumq  
infra dcm Dñium de Bromfeld et Yale jam impune fact' et ppetra-  
toz Ac etiam ad laudem necnon incrementū virtutis et boni Regi-  
m̄nis infra idem Dñium impostū hend̄ per Comissionarios p̄dcos  
ex assensu tenenciū et inhitaniciū dñmij p̄dci compenciu auctoritate  
supradict' Diſ statut' ordinações et pvisions subscript' fact' sunt  
et edit' p ppetuo duratuř put sequit'.

#### Lyve de signo et de jurament'.

Furst it is ordeyned and stabblished that it be not lefull to any persone to yeve or graunte any sygne tokyn knowleche of any lyvē but unto his menyall ſvauntes dayly ſvynge hym by yere. Nor to take any othe or promis of ſvice of any man by mouthe or writinge nor in any oderwise but of his menyall ſvaunts dayly ſvynge hym by the yere uppon the peyñ of C. s. to be forfeited as often tyme as any psone p̄sumeth to doe the contrarie to this saide ordinaunce.

#### D Recepē lyve.

Itm̄ it is ordeyned that no man be so hardy to resceyve or take of any psone or persones any signe tokyn or knowleche of any lyvē but of his maist̄ to whom he is meynall ſv̄nt and daily ſvynge by the yere nor to make any othe pmys or assuraunce of ſvice by mouthe writinge or odyrwyse but to his maist̄ to whom he is meynall ſv̄nt and daily ſvynge by the yere uppon peyn of xl. s to be forfeitid to the lorde as often tymes as any psone doth the contrarie of this ordināne or any poyn特 conteyned thereyn.

#### D eodm.

Item it is ordeyned that if any persone or psones have taken any gowne Jakette or oden lyvē before the foresaid monday of any psone or persones agayn the fourme of the ordynānce of lyvē made That

they use not nor were the said gownes Jackettes or oder lyve after the feste of xij<sup>th</sup> day next comynge but if it be turned into a nodyr colour uppon peyn of xl. s. to be forfettid as often tymes as any man doth the contrary.

#### D eodm.

Item it is ordeyned that no man from hensforth serve awaite nor do attendaunce to any persone or psones by reson of any lyvey signe token or knowlage by hym resceyvid nor by reson of any othe promys or covenēnt made by mouthe writinge or odirwise but to his maister to whom he is menyall ſvn̄t and daily ſvyngē by yere uppōn peyn to lose xl. s. as often as any man doth any ſuche ſvice of attendaunce and that all ſuche other pmys and coveñtes by mouthe and writinge be woide in lawe and of non effecte And that evy ſv̄nt and laborer drawe and put theym to labour and occupaſion upon peyn to be taken as a vakabounde.

#### Vacaboundes.

Item that all Vacaboundes and myghty Beggers beynge or comynge withynne the Lordshippē departe and goo out of the Lordshippē on this syde the feste of Hallowmasse next comyng upon peyn of impisement of theyre bodyes and forfeiture of theyre godes and catalle.

#### Vagabounds.

Item it is ordeyned that if any vagabounde or myghty Begger be founde or seen w̄in the said lordshippē after the feste of all Hallowe be foresaide that it be leeful to evy man to take and areste all ſuche vagaboundes and Beggers and to keep hem in p̄isone unto the tyme they have founde ſuerte or ſwerte that they put them ſelfe to labour and occupaſion or forthw̄t to departe out of the Lordshippē.

#### Vagabounds.

Item it is ordeyned that no man take uppon hym to loge maintenen or herborowe aft̄ the said Feste of all Hallowe any ſuche Vagabound or begger w̄in the said lordshippē upon peyn of Forffeturē as oft as he so doth xl. s.—xij. s. iiij. d therof to hym or theym that wyll ſewe for the lordes and the residue to the lordes behoffe.

## Wepōns.

Item it is ordeyned that no man presume nor take upon hym to bere opinly in any town village Feyre or market w<sup>t</sup>in the said lordshipp spere pollax lawncegay byll gleyve hook swerde nor odir wepon havyng poynt or ege but if it be awaitinge on the lordes there Styward Constable of theire Castell of Lyons or any odir officer or minister doyng or executyng their offices uppon peyn of imprisonment and forfetyng of their Wepōns.

## Assistence.

Item it is ordeyned that all and evy ten<sup>nt</sup> and Resident w<sup>t</sup>in the saide lordshipp be redy in their best aray defencyble at all tymes and places whā̄ nede shall requier to asiste helpe conforte and mayntene the lorde Stiward Constable and all other officers and ministres in executinge their offices or any thyng apperteynyng to the same evy man uppon peyn of a C. m̄rc̄.

## De latrone capiend.

Item it is ordeined that if any man take any theffe w<sup>t</sup>in the saide lordshipp w<sup>t</sup> maynor or pelfree and bringe the same theff to the Castell The Taker shall have the thridde parte of the saide maynor and pelfree founden and taken w<sup>t</sup> the same theff for his labour And yf any man take any theffe w<sup>t</sup>out maynor or pelfree and bringe the saide theffe to the Castell the said Taker shall have for his labour a resonable rewarde of the lordes.

## Sauffecundyte.

Item it is ordeined that in any Sauffecundyte hereaf<sup>t</sup> to be gu<sup>nt</sup>ted this clause to be put theryn Ita qd stet rect<sup>t</sup> in Cu<sup>r</sup> n̄is si quis versus eum loqui volūit ac etiam medio tempore se bene gesserit And also that the lordes have for evy suche Sauffecundite a Fyne by the discrecion of the Stiward and the Resceyvor to be assessed And evy Sauffecundite made or gu<sup>nt</sup>ted in contrarie fourme aft<sup>t</sup> pclamacion made to be voide and of non effect.

Taxa<sup>cō</sup> Cu<sup>r</sup>.

Item where the lordes Courtes of late tyme by negligence of the Stiward and Resceyvor have longe remayned untaxed aswell to the grete hurt of the lordes as of their officers it is ordeyned that all

fynes and amlycments of evy Court hereaf<sup>t</sup> to be holden w<sup>t</sup>in the forsaide lordshipp be taxed and assessed by the said Stiward and Resceivou<sup>r</sup> or by the Rescyvo<sup>r</sup> and lieffeten<sup>nt</sup> in the absence of the saide Stiward and that suche taxacion be made before the Court of the same place tha<sup>n</sup> next folowinge uppon peyn of losynge of their fees And also that the Clerke of the Courtes for the tyme beyng incontinent aft<sup>r</sup> the taxacion of the Courtes make and delyv<sup>r</sup> y<sup>e</sup> extretes and engrose the Courte Rolles uppōn peyn of losinge of his fee.

Item it isordeined that no man holde nor kepe any hostrie Taverne nor Alehous in desolate places but in Townes uppōn peyn every man or woman that so doth hereaf<sup>t</sup> to forfete C. s. — xx. s. therof to hym or theym that wyll sue for the lordes in this behalve and the residue to the said lordes.

#### That the Stiward do execucion.

Item forasmuche as grete compleint is made by the tenentes and inhabitauntes of the saide lordshipp That when any psone or psones have recovēd any dette or damage in any of the lordes Courtes w<sup>t</sup>inn the said lordshipp that they may not have dewe execucion of suche condempnacions accordynge to the lawe Therefore it is ordeined stablisshed and proclaimed that if any psone or persones hereaf<sup>t</sup> recovē any Dette or Damage in any of the said Courtes w<sup>t</sup>in the said lordshipp of Bromfeld and Yale he that so recovēth shall now have execucion at his eleccion of the bodie of him ageyn whom he so recovēth or of his godes and catalles or of his landes and tenementes in maner and fourme as foloweth hereaf<sup>t</sup>.

#### De Corpore.

Item if the pleintiffe chose his execucion of the bodye of hym that is condempned The Bailly or Minister of the Courte to whom it is commaunded by the Stiward or oder Juge or Juges to do execucion shall take the bodye of hym so condempned and hym incontinent to bringe to the lords prison theryn to abide w<sup>t</sup>out bayll or maynprice till the ptie pleintiffe be content or the condempnacion relesid of recordē.

#### D Bonis

And yf the pleyniffe chose his execucion of goodes and catalles The Bailly or minister of the Court to whom the Stiward or oder Juge or Juges have yeven commandemt to do execucion shall by

the othes of trewe men do appreysē the goodes and cataſſ of the Defendaunt to the valewe of the condempnacion and aft that ſuche goodes and cataſſ ben appreysed yf the Defendaunt wyll paie the condempnacion he ſhall have and reteyne ſtill his godes and cataſſ and yf he woll not paie the money the Bailly or oder minister ſhall ſell ſuche goodes accordanſe as they ben appreysed yf the pleintyffe or any oder wyll have theym as they ben appreysed. And yf the pleintyffe nor non oder wyll have theym by that price the appreisōſ ſhall be compellid to paie the condempnacion and to have the ſame godes to theym ſelfe as they have appreysed them.

#### Supplusage d' terř et bonis.

And if the ſaide goodes be appreysed to a gretter valewe than the condempnacion draweth to The Bailly or oder minister ſhall answer to the Defendaunt of the Supplusage. And yf the pleintyffe chofe his ejecucion of londes and tenementes the Bailly or oder minister to whom the Stiward or oder Juge or Juges hath commaunded to do ejecucion ſhall by the othes of trewe men do extende all the landes and tenementes of hym that is condempned what is the clere valewe therof by yere and aft ſuche extent made to deliv̄ the halfe therof devided by metys and boundes to the pleintyffe to have and holde to hym aft the ſame extent tyll he be of the Issues and prouffites of the ſame content and ſatisfied And duringe that tyme he ſhall be ten̄nt p elegit.

#### Baylly.

And the Stiward or his Deputee for the tyme beinge or oder Juge or Juges w̄in the ſaide lordſpipp̄ ſhall at all tymes requisite yeve ſtraightly in commaundem̄t to all Bailles and odir ministres of the Courtes That they and every of theym do hasty ejecucion of all ſuche condempnacions trewly whan they or any of theym be commaunded w̄out any favoſ and ov̄ that make trewe Retorue and anſwere at the next Courte how he hath executid his ſaid comaunderment And yf the Stiward or his Deputee for the tyme beyng or oder Juge or Juges fynde any defaute or untrowth in the Bailly or odir ministre in that behalffe that the Stiward or his Deputee or oder Juge or Juges corect hym or theym ſo founde in defaute by Imprisonement or amercyment aftir their diſcrecione.

*(To be continued.)*

## ARVONA MEDIÆVA.

No. II.

## BEDDGELERT PRIORY.



**HISTORY OF THE PRIORY.**—The absence of materials for a connected history of this religious house is a characteristic of its existence, in which it has shared the fate of so many other conventional establishments. It is, indeed, by no means improbable that not many materials existed; or, at all events, that no very striking historical matters connected with it have been left unrecorded. From its very nature, and still more from its position, it was calculated to be an abode of “that peace which the world cannot give,” and to remain so until that peace and that good, which existed here, were allowed by Providence to disappear, under the destroying hand of a ruthless tyrant and his rapacious ministers. It is no reproach to the Priory that we know little about it. It was not founded for purposes of worldly ostentation; it

was not intended to be the means of advertising the munificence of the several benefactors; it was placed here for the good of men's souls, for the benefit of future generations of Christians; and, doubtless, it fulfilled that purpose of holy charity as far as the inherent weakness of human institutions would allow.

Situated in one of the loveliest of Cambria's many lovely vales, at the very base of the most august of all her mountains, on the high road of communication, even in the remotest times of civilization, from the ancient Roman city of **SEGONTIUM** towards **MEDIOLANUM**, and so into the Salopian plains around **URICONIUM**; dedicated to God under the invocation of the Virgin, and called the House of the Valley of the Blessed Mary of Snowdon;—it must have been considered in ancient times as a chosen spot of happy meditation, and as secure from all the chances and changes of worldly existence. The surrounding hills were then, no doubt, thickly covered with primæval forests; the scenery must have been far more beautiful than it is even at the present time, when it is reckoned one of the most picturesque spots in the whole Principality; and the retired seclusion of the brethren must have been complete.

It is by no means improbable that some kind of **Hospitium** had been established here from an early period of the Christian history of Wales, and that advantage was afterwards taken of this circumstance to found a more important establishment. From the words of the charter quoted below, and from what is known concerning the Roman remains of Caernarvonshire, Beddgelert must have been a station, of some kind or another, on what was then the great Irish road by way of Holyhead, and therefore must have been a place much frequented by pilgrims. On the rocks above the church, tradition points out the sites of two fortified posts guarding the double vales; and it may be readily credited that the place and house were not only as the charter states, “*Melioris hospitalitatis*,” but also, “*Melioris notæ*.<sup>1</sup>”

The first name of importance connected with the fortunes of the house, is that of **Llewelyn ap Iorwerth**, mentioned in

<sup>1</sup> How truly it has regained this reputation in modern times, let all who have experienced the care and attention of Mrs. Pritchard, at the Goat Hotel—the best establishment of the kind in Wales—gratefully declare.

the charters. This prince may have been the principal founder, or he may have consolidated and augmented the donations of others. Whether there be any truth in the well-known romantic tradition, that hangs over the spot, of the Prince slaying here his faithful hound, and which is one of the most striking of the many that haunt our Cambrian mountains, can hardly be decided. It is a pity to reject it, were it only for the poetry of the idea, but it is hard to verify it by any historical document. The Rev. P. B. Williams, in his account of the Welsh Religious Houses, (published in the *Cymrodonorion Transactions*, part iv. p. 245-6,) which, though brief, is valuable, as giving a good synopsis of the subject, conjectures that the name of the place may have been derived from *Bwth*, a hermit's cell, cottage, or bothie, and *Cil-Arch*, or *Cilvach Garth*. W. Williams, in his *Observations on the Snowdon Mountains*, conjectures that Celert or Cilert was the name of some anchorite buried here, and hence derives the name.

The only light thrown upon the history of the Priory is by the charters themselves. The whole of the establishment was consumed by fire, occasioned perhaps by hospitable preparations for some of the pilgrim guests, and all the muniments of the house perished. The Bishop of the diocese, Anian, interfered in its behalf with the King, vouched that he had seen certain charters conveying certain rights, and obtained from the magnanimous and politic Edward a confirmation of all the ancient privileges of the Priory under his royal hand. When, in a future and less generous age, a royal commission was sent to verify the conditions of the religious property of this house, one of the Priors was so imprudent as to produce a charter, the apocryphal character of which he seems not to have been cognizant of; and, with the greatest simplicity, alleged at one moment that *all* the charters had been destroyed in the conflagration, and at another produced one which he maintained was antecedent to that calamity. The Anglo-Norman inquisitors allowed the poor Prior to meditate over this "bull" in one of the royal prisons; but ultimately recovery was given of all the lands, though nothing is said concerning the privileges, of the monastery. And this amounts to nearly all that we know concerning this religious house. Dugdale and Tanner have been able to recover very little; for the references of the latter do

not produce any information when verified, and in some cases they do not seem to have been correctly given; so that the returns of the commission in the time of Henry VIII., together with the long previous *Taxation* of Pope Nicholas V., supply nearly all the materials that are known to bear on the subject.

It was a house of Canons Regular, of the order of St. Augustine; but of how many the brethren consisted is not said. The names of very few of the superiors have transpired; everything remains in uncertainty. Pennant conjectured that it had been a Gilbertine house, from a neighbouring meadow being called Dol y Lleian, "The Nun's Field," but there seems to be no documentary nor traditional ground whatever for that learned antiquary's supposition. Some female saint may have lived here before the Regulars took possession of the house, and hence the name may have sprung; otherwise there is nothing to guide us even to a conjecture as to the origin of that appellation.

Williams, in his *Observations, &c.*, quoted above, says:—

"Lewis Daron, a Bard of the 15th century, in a Poem, (the purport of which is to solicit David, the Prior of Bethcelert, to bestow on John Wynne, of Gwydir, Esq. a fine bay horse, which he possessed,) extols the Prior for his liberality and learning. Hence we are led to suppose that this monk was very opulent, and a popular character in his time.

"There is likewise an ancient mansion-house near the church, where it is likely the Prior made his residence. In this house is shewn an old pewter mug, that will hold two quarts or more: it is called *Bethcelert Pint*; and any person, who is able to grasp it in one hand, and drink up the contents in ale at one draught, is entitled to the liquor *gratis*, and the tenant is to charge the value of it to the Lord of the Manor as part payment of the rent.

"At Bethcelert lie buried two eminent Bards, namely *Rhys Goch Eryri*, and *Dafydd Nanmor*; the former died about the year 1420, and, as may be gathered from his writings, at a very advanced age, supposed to be about 120, or upwards. He was a gentleman of property, and lived at Havadgarregog, being the proprietor of that mansion and manor, situated and lying in the county of Merioneth, although it makes a part of this parish.

"The latter lived at *Nanmor*, in the same part of the parish, and died about A.D. 1460. He also seems to have been a man of consequence. They were both learned men in their times, as their compositions testify."

Mr. Rowlands supposed that the Prior had a house at

Llanidan, in Anglesey, where some of the Conventual property lay, and that he often resided there.

ARCHITECTURE OF THE ABBEY. In assuming that the present parochial church of Beddgelert was the conventual church, no great error is probably made. The architecture corresponds to the date of the re-edification in the time of Edward I., and it is not likely that the population of the surrounding district, at that period, required a separate building for their accommodation. At least, no traces of any other religious edifice, no tradition of the former existence of one, remain anywhere in the neighbourhood; and in a country like Wales, where tradition has been so carefully preserved, and may so generally be depended upon, this circumstance may be taken as a convincing negative proof.

On the southern side of the church traces of foundations have been laid bare at various times, and there is reason to believe that buildings of some size existed there in former days. Their nature, however, cannot be determined; they may have formed the cloisters; and the existence of a doorway in the southern wall of the church, as well as a larger one in the western wall, would seem to imply that the Religious may have entered by the former, the laity by the latter. With that apathy, however, for all things telling of the great and good deeds of former days, which has long been a melancholy characteristic of Welsh society, no researches seem to have been carried on with a view to discover any of the remains of the Priory. It is possible that the honour of making these may be reserved for a future and better age, when various memorials of this humble house of God may be brought to light. If so, the deficiencies of this brief account may then be filled up,—should indeed the account itself survive to such an indefinite period.

The Priory church, as it at present stands, consists of a single aisle; but in 1827, when the view given above was taken, the northern aisle was still roofed in. At present only portions of the walls of the latter exist. The church is now eighty feet long and thirty feet wide, in external dimensions; the width of the northern aisle was sixteen feet; the walls are three feet thick, and eighteen feet high to the spring of the roof, above which the ridge of the roof rises ten feet. At the western end is a porch of recent date; above is a single-light Early-Pointed window, and on the

apex of the wall a single bell-gable. In the southern wall is a low doorway, seen in the view, from which, when the repairs were made in 1830, three steps were found leading downwards; thus telling of a considerable accumulation of earth round the walls of the church. The arch of another doorway could be traced mid-way in this wall. In the southern wall, towards the western end, and high up, were two small lancet windows; and again, towards the eastern end, a Perpendicular window of four lights. These valuable features of the original building, which have been entirely destroyed during the repairs, probably shewed from their position that a roof covering a passage, (as in the case of a cloister or an aisle, if the church had one on that side,) existed there. In the northern wall are two wide and beautifully moulded Early Pointed arches leading into the northern aisle. These have fortunately been spared, and, though blocked up and the aisle demolished, serve to give great architectural character to the interior of the edifice. At the eastern end are three lofty and well proportioned lancet windows, of very plain mouldings and rather wide splays, but cruelly shortened within and partially blocked up during the modern repairs,—which seem to have been of the most injudicious kind. Square apertures occur in this eastern wall. The northern aisle had a doorway at the western end. With the exception of the window in the southern wall, the church is of Early-Pointed character throughout, and, though very plain, is a good specimen of that chaste and effective style. The font is hard to be decyphered, being apparently of late, perhaps of Puritan, times. It consists of a wide and very shallow circular leaden basin, set upon a base plastered and covered with wood; there is a plug-hole in the middle, but, being only three inches deep, immersion must have been impossible. Hence it must have been constructed in any but a Catholic age. At present a small porcelaine basin is placed inside it, and serves for the administration of this Sacrament, so that the ecclesiological character of this essential feature of the church cannot be reduced lower. The church is pewed throughout. As the walls are stout, and some of the main features of the church still exist, the possibility evidently remains of a good restoration being made at some future and more enlightened period. The orientation of the building is north-east by

east. In front of the western end, and towards the north-west, is the cemetery, which probably always occupied the same spot. Round the church ash trees grow luxuriantly, and add much to the beauty of the scene, while against some of the walls are wild raspberry bushes, offering in due season abundance of fruit on holy ground.

**LEGAL AND PUBLIC DOCUMENTS REFERRING TO THE PRIORY.**  
— Subjoined are translations of the charters and other documents as given in Dugdale, *The Record of Caernarvon, &c.* Their orthography has been preserved, however erroneous.

No. I.

*Dugd. Monast.* tom. vi. p. 200, (new edition); *Rymer Fœd. et Convent. &c.*, vol ii. p. 316, A.D. 1286; an 14 Edw. I., *Ex bundella Brevium et Literarum*; an 14 Edw. I., in *Turri*.

To all the faithful in Christ, who shall see or hear these letters, Anian, by divine permission, the humble minister of the church of Bangor, eternal salvation in the Lord. Know that we have seen various charters of divers Princes to the Prior and Convent of the Valley of the Blessed Mary of Snowdon. That is to say, the charter of Lewelin the Great, over<sup>1</sup> all the land of Kyndewewic ap Rennaut; also the charter of Lewelin, son of Griffin, over all the lands of the sons of Ithael de Penard; also the charters of Lewelin, the son of Griffin, over all the land of the men of Trehan, at Kenynbeind and Lecheitaur; also the charter of the Lord Owen over all the Vill, which is called Tref Ybeyrd, in Kynind Meney; also the charter of the Lord Lewelin, son of Griffin, over all that land and place of Beckellers; also the charter of Lord David over all the land which Ierberd Vab Yerfeyst may have had, and Feraul at Eppennant; also concerning the said lands we have seen Papal letters, confirmatory with bulls, not cancelled, not abolished, nor in any way weakened in effect. Whereupon, know all, that the said house of the Blessed Mary is the senior religious house in all Wales, (except the Island of Saints, Bardigeya,) and of better hospitality and of more common resort for the poor, and for the English and Welsh travellers, for those passing from England and West Wales to North Wales, and for those going from Ireland and North Wales into England. But, to the no small loss and common deficiency of all, the said house having been totally destroyed by an accidental fire, although in the time of hospitality (licet in hospitalitatis tempore?) it must suffer the greatest destruction, has nevertheless been fully restored by the pious, Catholic and liberal king, by the grace of God, Lord Edward.

<sup>1</sup> Super totam terram; the same government is used in reciting the charters, but not in the case of the Papal letters, &c., where the ablative is used.

And because it is a pious act to assist the afflicted and oppressed, We, by the mercy of God, and the intercession of his Mother, and trusting in the suffrages of all Saints, do mercifully relax forty days of the penance enjoined them to all the benefactors of the said house, assisting it from whatever quarters, who from the goods, granted them by God, have given to it pious alms and other favours, so that they be truly penitent and confessed. In testimony of which, &c. Given at Maesyallan, on the octave of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary, in the year of our Lord, 1286.

## No. II.

*Charter of 14 Edw. I. n. 5.*

The King to the archbishop, &c., greeting. Brother Madoc, Prior of the House of the Blessed Mary of Bethkelert, and brother Hugh, fellow canon with himself of the same house, having come to us, have humbly and devoutly supplicated us that, whereas all the buildings of the Priory itself, and the charters and others their instruments given to that Priory concerning different lands and tenements, have unfortunately been, together with the same instruments lately burnt, we should for the sake of charity take care to make for them and their successors, serving God in the same place some security for the lands and tenements aforesaid; and because the venerable father, Anian, Bishop of Bangor, has sent to us his letters patent, by which he testified that he had seen the charters of divers Princes granted to the Prior and Convent of the aforesaid place, viz.: the charter of Lewelin the Great, concerning all the land of Kineluluyt, of Pennant; the charter of Lewelin, son of Griffin, concerning all the lands of the sons of Ithael of Pennard; the charter of Lewelin, son of Griffin, concerning all the land of the men of Treban, at Kenynbend and Letheycaur; the charter of the Lord Owen concerning all the Vill, which is called Frefynerd in Kimidmeney;<sup>1</sup> the charter of Lewelin, son of Griffin, concerning all that land and place of Betkelert; the charter of the Lord David concerning all the land of Adver, in Epenant; the charter of the Lord David of all the land of Legwaret, Vayre, Gneyr, of Penaut; and the charter concerning all the land which Iorverd Vab Yrefeyrat and Steyraul had in Epennant. We, piously compassionating the innumerable losses which the aforesaid Prior and Convent have sustained by the aforesaid combustion, and giving full faith to the laudable testimony of the aforesaid Bishop concerning the inspection of the aforesaid charters, do, for the salvation of our own souls and of the souls of our predecessors and heirs, accept the aforesaid donations of the aforesaid lands made to the aforesaid Priory by the aforesaid donors; and, for ourselves and our heirs, as far as in us lies, do grant and confirm them to the aforesaid Prior and Convent, according as

<sup>1</sup> Tre'r' beirdd in Cwmmwd Menai. See *Antiquitates Parochiales in Arch. Camb.*

they have hitherto reasonably used these donations, and to their successors for ever. These being witnesses : the Venerable Father R.<sup>1</sup> Bishop of Bath and Wells, our chancellor ; Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, our brother ; Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester and Hereford ; Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, our relation ; Edmund de Mortimer ; William de Breus ; Robert, son of John (Fitz-John ?) William de Leyburne, and others. Given by our hand, at Canterbury, the 10th day of May.<sup>2</sup>

Among the pleadings in *Quo Warranto*, 24 Edw. III., (*Record of Caernarvon*, pp. 166, 167,) occurs one, alluded to above, of some consequence to the Priory itself, and also to the character of one or more of its Priors. This document states that the Prior (Prior domus Vallis Beate Marie de Bethkellert,) was summoned to answer to the prince upon a plea of *Quo Warranto*, and to shew why he and his successors claimed to be quit of "every vexation, talliage, and exaction of courts, and from secular service, and also from suit of mills and hundred courts, and all other courts throughout the whole domain of the prince ; and to have the offices of bailiffs, raglots, ringilds and woodwards, and ammobragium, with wild animals and birds, over all their land in North Wales, and with all other rights in any way belonging to the Prince, as well concerning transgressions as forfeitures, so that no bailiffs nor ministers of the Prince or his heirs could have or require anything from the men or tenants of the lands of the Prior and his Canons, but that the said Prior and Canons were to have the whole profit and dominion of the aforesaid lands for ever ; and also that the same Prior and Canons should be free and quit of all amerciaments throughout the whole domain of the Prince, and in whatsoever manner they might be liable to amerciaments ; and if any of their tenants should be fined in the court of the Lord the Prince, the said Prior and Canons were to have and receive these fines ; contrary to the interest and dignity of the Prince," &c. In reply to this, the Prior stated that Llewelyn ap Gruffudd had granted by charter to one of his predecessors (*cuidam Priori qui tunc fuit prædecessori ipsius Prioris*

<sup>1</sup> Robert Burnell.

<sup>2</sup> These charters, both in the old and new editions of Dugdale, are most incorrect in their orthography of proper names ; which, however, we have not ventured to change. Probably these errors arose from want of skill in palæography, or from want of care, on the part of those who originally transcribed them.

nunc,) all the liberties above stated, to have and to hold for the benefit of this house "in free and perpetual alms" for ever; "and he produced the aforesaid charter, which testified the same thing, and of which the date was Kaernaruan, on the day of St. James the Apostle, in the twelve hundredth and seventy-first year of our Lord." The Prior then related how one of his predecessors had appeared before King Edward I., after the conquest of Wales, and, the Bishop of Bangor being present and testifying to the truth of his statement, had rehearsed the calamitous loss of the muniments of the house by fire; and that the King had then granted to the Priory a new charter, which he quoted at length. This document is here recited in the pleading the same as it has been above. Upon this, John de Delves acutely observed, that whereas the Prior had actually produced in court a charter which he asserted to be that granted by Llewelyn, and then had afterwards alleged that *all* the charters and muniments of his house had been destroyed by fire, and whereas it had been actually recognized in King Edward's charter above cited that they had been so destroyed, it was evident that the charter produced under the name of Llewelyn could in no wise be called, nor admitted to be, that very charter by which the privileges in question had been granted. And further, that it appeared by the seal itself of the charter, that it had been newly sealed, and not at the time supposed by its date. Hence, it followed that the charter was false and fabricated, and he claimed that judgment should pass if the Prior claimed his privileges by virtue of this document. He also claimed of the court that the Prior, on account of this counterfeiting and falsifying Prince Llewelyn's charter, should be committed to gaol as a seductor of the Lord Prince, and that all the liberties and possessions of the said house, that is to say its temporalities, should be taken into the hands of the Prince. The Prior, in his justification, declared that he had not counterfeited this charter, nor was he guilty of any action of the kind, nor of any sedition, (*sedicio* probably for *seductione*, as replying to the charges of being a *seductor*,) but that at the time when he was made Prior of the aforesaid house, he found that charter in the state in which it now was, in his Priory. This he professed himself ready to verify to the court in any way it might determine; and on account of this he alleged this charter as good and

true for the maintaining of his liberties. The charter appears to have been put in and examined, and the pleading states that it appeared manifestly a false and counterfeited one, because the wax with which it was sealed was "new and recent," while the date was seventy-eight years previous, and that it was therefore of no avail to the Prior. It was then immediately granted by the court that all the liberties and temporalities of the Priory should be taken into the hands of the Prince, and the Prior is stated to have been committed to gaol. The place of his confinement is not mentioned, but it was probably at Caernarvon Castle, nor does it say anything as to the duration. However, the record ends by stating: —

"Afterwards, in the presence of Richard de Stafford, the aforesaid prior for the recovery of his temporalities aforesaid, and similarly for the other matters aforesaid, (the *liberties* are not here specified,) paid a fine of one hundred shillings, under bail of the following persons: Gervaii. Beneyt. Howett Moil ap Mad Joȝ ap Ad loit. Mad ap Joȝ Vagh'n, and Mad ap Joȝ Jorw."

These names, given as they are in the Record, may admit of correction. Then follows the entry: —

"Let Iō, (John,) the same prior recover his temporalities aforesaid; and let him be liberated from the gaol aforesaid," &c.

On referring to the petitions mentioned in the *Record of Caernarvon*, we find the following at p. 220: — "The Prior and Convent represent by petition, that a mill of theirs at Pennant Wernokyon, in Caernarvonshire, having been destroyed in time of war, they had agreed with one Llewelyn ap Conan, (Leueli ap Conan,) that (they being incompetent to meet the expenses of doing so,) he should rebuild the mill on condition of receiving half the profits, until a certain time, and that this time being then expired, the king's officers had seized on that half of the mill; and therefore they petitioned for remedy of this grievance."

Immediately after this follows the record of a petition from Llewelyn ap Llewelyn ap Conan, (Leueli ap Leueli ap Conan,) son of the above, stating the facts as mentioned in the former petition; and to this, as well as apparently to the preceding, answer is given that the Justiciary will inform himself of the manner and cause of this seizure, and the truth of the fact, and will acquaint the King therewith.

In the Extenta Com. Meryonneth, (*Record of Caernarvon*, p. 281,) in the parish of Llanfair, (Llanvayr,) mention is made of a certain parcel of land called "ter stent of the Prior of Bethkelert; and it gives to the lord the prince, per annum, 2d., to be paid at the festivals of Easter and Michaelmas equally."

PROPERTY OF THE PRIORY.—The first document is the following from the *Taxatio Pap. Nich. V.* (Transcript given in the Record of Caernarvon, p. 230.)

*Goods of the Priory of Bethkellard.*

The Prior has the grange of Lecheydor <sup>1</sup> and Ippenant, <sup>2</sup> with part of the mills, two carucates of land.....	30 <sup>s</sup> 0 <sup>d</sup>	3 <sup>s</sup> 0 <sup>d</sup>
Also he has the grange of Fenhidett <sup>3</sup> and the Vill of Geibi, <sup>4</sup> with the commodities .....	42 <sup>s</sup> 0 <sup>d</sup>	4 <sup>s</sup> 2 <sup>1/2</sup> d
Also he has the grange of Haberreich, <sup>5</sup> one carucate of land, and from bees .....	16 <sup>s</sup> 8 <sup>d</sup>	0 <sup>s</sup> 20 <sup>d</sup>

*Produce of the Animals of the Priory of Bethkellard.*

The Prior has fifty cows; produce .....	50 <sup>s</sup> 0 <sup>d</sup>	5 <sup>s</sup> 0 <sup>d</sup>
Also he has twenty-two sheep; produce.....	5 <sup>s</sup> 6 <sup>d</sup>	0 <sup>s</sup> 6 <sup>3/4</sup> d
Sum of the Goods of the Priory of Bethkellard.....	7 <sup>s</sup> 4 <sup>d</sup>	2 <sup>d</sup>
Sum of the Tithe .....	9 <sup>s</sup> 14 <sup>d</sup>	5 <sup>1/4</sup> d

**VALOR ECCLESIASTICUS; 26 Hen. VIII.**

*Monastery of Bethkylhert.<sup>6</sup>*

<i>TEMPORALITIES of the county of Caernarvon, Manor of Bethkylhert.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>
Value in rents of demesne lands there, per ann. £1.	

Rents of lands in the hands of divers persons, 6 <sup>l</sup> 6 <sup>s</sup> 8 <sup>d</sup> .....	7	6	8
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*In SPIRITUALITIES in the county of Caernarvon.*

<i>Rectory of Bethkelhert, in the Deanery of Ewyionydd, value</i>	
In the gross in common years, by the scrutiny and examination of the commissioners.....	6 13 4

<sup>1</sup> Leycheydor. *Rec. Caern. var.*—Llechedidor. *Browne Willis.*

<sup>2</sup> Ippenant. *Taxatio. in Dugd.*—Is pennant. *Br. Willis.*

<sup>3</sup> Fenhydill. *Tax. in Dugd.*—Fentidill. *Br. Willis.*

<sup>4</sup> Geibi. *Rec. Caern. var.*—Gyeberi. *Tax. in Dugd.*—Gwehelyn. *Br. Willis.*

<sup>5</sup> Habersesth. *Tax. in Dugd.*—Tre'r beirdd. *Br. Willis.*

<sup>6</sup> Are we to take this spelling of the word as an early indication of the rise of the tradition concerning Llewelyn's dog, Kyl-hert, or Kill-Hart?

*Rectory of Llanriangell-y-Pennaunt,<sup>1</sup> in the aforesaid  
Deanery, value in*

Tithes and other profits of the Church in that place,	
7. 5. 8; glebe land in the Vill of Llechither, <sup>2</sup>	
18 <sup>s</sup> 4 <sup>d</sup> ; glebe land in the Vill of Penant, 13 <sup>s</sup> .....	8 17 0

*Rectory of Abererch, in the aforesaid Deanery, value in*

Glebe land there, per ann. 5 <sup>s</sup> ; tithes and oblations, in common years, by scrutiny, &c. 13 <sup>l</sup> 6 <sup>s</sup> 8 <sup>d</sup> .....	13 11 8
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*Rectory of Llan Vaire<sup>3</sup> and Bettoccharmon,<sup>4</sup> in the aforesaid  
Deanery, value in*

Glebe land there, per ann. 3 <sup>s</sup> 4 <sup>d</sup> ; tithes and oblations, in common years, by scrutiny, &c. 6 <sup>l</sup> 13 <sup>s</sup> 4 <sup>d</sup> .....	6 16 8
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*Rectory of Dolwethlan,<sup>5</sup> in the Deaneries of Issaph,<sup>6</sup> Nanconwey,<sup>7</sup>  
and Cruthyn,<sup>8</sup> value in*

Glebe land there, per ann. 5 <sup>s</sup> ; tithes and oblations there, in common years, 4 <sup>l</sup> 13 <sup>s</sup> 4 <sup>d</sup> .....	4 18 4
---	--------

*County of Anglesey, Rectory of Llanredan,<sup>9</sup> in the Deaneries  
of Meney<sup>10</sup> and Maltraith,<sup>11</sup> value*

In the gross by the scrutiny and examination of the commissioners, with 40 <sup>s</sup> for glebe land .....	70 3 8
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And there remains in the King's hands.....	22 0 0
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The subjoined extract, from Dugdale, (*Monasticon*, vol. vi. p. 200, edit. Ellis,) gives nearly all that remains to be said concerning this priory:—

*Priors of Bethkelert, (sic).*

Madoc occurs in the 14th Edw. I.

Llewelin received the temporalities as Prior 20th May, 15th Edw. II.

His successor was,

John de Leyn; he received the temporalities 10th April, 11th Edw. III.

David Conway was the last Prior.<sup>12</sup>

The site of Bethkelert was granted in the 27th Hen. VIII., in exchange to the Monastery of Chertsey, in Surrey; and in the 29th Hen. VIII., together with Chertsey, to the Abbey of Bisham, in Berkshire. It now belongs to the Earl of Radnor.

<sup>1</sup> Llanfihangel-y-Pennant.    <sup>2</sup> Llechedior?    <sup>3</sup> Llanfair.    <sup>4</sup> Bettws Garmon.    <sup>5</sup> Dolwyddelan.    <sup>6</sup> Llechwedd isaf.    <sup>7</sup> Nant Conwy.

<sup>8</sup> Creuddyn.    <sup>9</sup> Llanidan.    <sup>10</sup> Menai.    <sup>11</sup> Malltraeth.    <sup>12</sup> MS.

Cole, vol. xxvii. fol. 120, b. This reference proves to be only a marginal note of Cole, (that most indefatigable collector,) copied from the MS. notes in Browne Willis's *Abbeys*, vol. ii.

There are no ministers' accompts of this Priory in the Augmentation Office; the return made in the Ecclesiastical Taxation, 26th Hen. VIII., is therefore given in lieu of it.

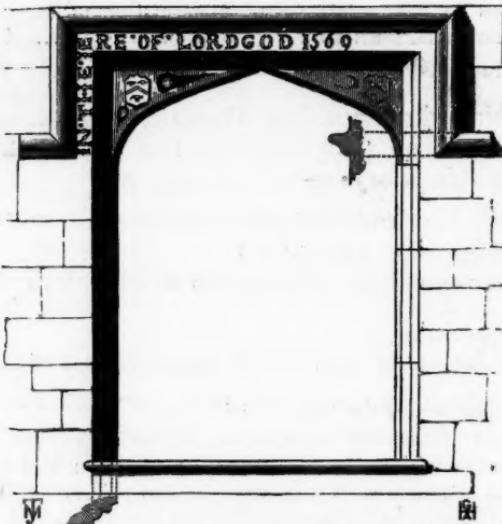
No part of the buildings of this Monastery now remain; nor has a seal, either of the Priory or any of its Priors, been discovered.

Pennant states that he had in his possession a drawing of the Seal of the Priory, dated 1531, and on it the figure of the Virgin and Child; but no part of the legend remained except BETHKELE. Rowlands, in his MSS., says that, on the dissolution, the King gave to the family of the Bodvels, all the lands in Caernarvonshire, that belonged to this Priory; and all those in Anglesey, to that of the Prydderchs, excepting the township of Tre'r beirdd.

H. L. J.

### MONA MEDLÆVA.

#### No. VI.



Door-way of the Porch, Plas Côch.

PLAS CÔCH, in the parish of Llanedwen, is one of the most considerable of the ancient residences of the gentry of Anglesey now extant. It was erected by Hugh Hughes, Esq., Attorney-general in the time of Queen Elizabeth, and

member for the county in the thirty-ninth year of that reign; it is now held by William Bulkeley Hughes, Esq., his descendant, M.P. for Caernarvon, and has been lately much added to and improved. This mansion is built of a red rock found in situ close by, and hence derives its name. The original plan approximated to the form of the letter E. no doubt out of compliment to the reigning sovereign; and this shape has been partly preserved in the recent additions. The whole is a good, but rather plain, specimen of the Elizabethan style; and the effect of light and shade, caused by the boldly projecting wings and porch, is remarkably good. Over the doorway is a small stone slab under a pediment, intended, no doubt, to hold the full armorial bearings of the family; but the only relic of this kind now to be made out is the small shield in one of the spandrels of the doorway, charged with the bearings of Llowarch Bran, founder of the second of the fifteen Tribes, and one of the ancestors of this family. They are Argent, a Chevron Sable between three Ravens, with Ermine in their bills, of the second. A shield in the other spandrel has been too much worn away by the action of the weather to admit of being decyphered; the inscription, partially effaced, records the date of the building, 1569. The interior has been lately arranged with excellent taste; and in particular a magnificent dining-room erected, the oaken pannelling of which is exceedingly beautiful. The hall, too, with a double staircase, is an admirable feature. The engraving, executed under the direction of H. Shaw, Esq., represents the house viewed from the terrace to the south-east; it was taken, as well as the view of the doorway, from a drawing by T. J. Maude, Esq., and has been presented by the owner of the mansion, for the illustration of this work, in a manner not less kind than handsome, and calling for the author's warmest acknowledgements.

This parish is remarkable for two other noble mansions, that of Plas Newydd, the seat of the Marquis of Anglesey, and Plas Gwyn, the seat of C. H. Evans, Esq., of Hêンblas; but, as both are modern edifices, they do not fall within the scope of this work. The celebrated Druidical remains of the parish are also too well known to need more than this passing allusion. (See Rowland's *Mona Antiq.*; Pennant's *Tour*, vol. ii.; A. Llwyd, *Hist. of Mona*.)

**CWMMWD OF TYNDAETHWY.** This cwmmwd or commot contains the following parochial divisions:—

Llanfair Pwll Gwyngyll (rect.) with Llandyssilio (chap.); Llandyfnan (rect.) with Llanbedr Goch (chap.); Llanfair ym Mathafarn Eithaf (chap.) and Pentraeth or Llanfair Bettws Geraint (chap.); Llansadwrn (rect.); Llanddona (vic.); Llaniestin (rect.) with Llangoed (chap.), and Llanfihangel Tinsylwy (chap.); Llanfaes (vic.) with Penmôn (chap.); Penmynydd (vic.); Llandegfan (rect.) with Beaumarais (chap.) It formed part of the ancient Cantref of Rhosfair or Newborough.

**LLANDYSSILIO.** The church of this parish stands in one of the most remarkable and picturesque situations in Wales, being placed on a small island in the Menai, immediately below the north-west end of the Menai Bridge.



Llandyssilio Church.

It is a small and unpretending edifice, being only thirty-seven feet six inches long and twenty feet wide internally, consisting of a single aisle. The western end is capped by a single bell-gable, and a pointed doorway occurs in the northern wall. The eastern window is a good specimen of the style prevalent in Anglesey during the latter portion of the fourteenth and beginning of the fifteenth century; for, although its tracery has the character of the Decorated style, its cinque-foiled lights and hollow chamfer in the monials assign it to the Early Perpendicular period.



Eastern Window, Llandysilio.

The font, which stands in the north-west corner of the church, is a plain octagonal basin. The principals of the roof are singular for having their edges chamfered, with square diamond-cut knobs left at intervals along the plane of the chamfer, the vertex of the diamond answering to the original edge of the timber. The effect of this enrichment, thus produced at a very trifling cost, is well worthy of imitation. This church, which is built nearly east and west, is under the invocation of St. Tyssilio, one of the most celebrated saints of Wales, who flourished in the sixth century. (See Rees's *Welsh Saints*, p. 277, 278.) The festival is on November 8th. (See A. Llwyd's *Hist. of Mona*, p. 229, et seq.) The engravings illustrative of this church, have already appeared in an article communicated by the author to the *Archæological Journal*, vol. i. p. 128, and have been again furnished through the kindness of J. H. Parker, Esq.

The church being of very small dimensions, and the population of the parish having been considerably increased from the rise of the village or town of the Menai Bridge,<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> An opportunity has been lost of making this one of the most beautiful villages in the Principality. From the picturesque and rocky nature of the ground, from its being on the shore of the Strait, and from the proximity of Telford's Great Suspension Bridge, a collection of neat and regularly built houses would have had an excellent effect; whereas it is now one of the ugliest and worst conditioned places in Anglesey.

a project has been lately entertained of building a new church to suit the wants of the inhabitants. If this should ever be carried into effect, it is our earnest hope that no specious principles of mere utility, or accommodation, will induce the promoters of it to choose any other site for the building than the little "Holy Island," on which the sacred edifice has stood from the remotest antiquity. Why should the many recollections connected with this spot be done violence to by the present generation, merely because a village has arisen a quarter of a mile off? Why should not the poetry—the romance—of the idea which first led to the choice of so peculiar—so beautiful a situation, be still felt,—still respected? If the little island were formed into a sacred enclosure, with the village church and school-house upon it, and perhaps a residence for the schoolmaster, or parish clerk, a groupe of buildings might be erected there, which, due regard being had to the analogy of what exists, and to the requirements of the surrounding scenery, would make this one of the loveliest features of the Menai Strait.

**LLANFAIR PWLL GWYNGYLL.**—The church, which is the only mediæval building in the parish, is remarkable, not only for standing in one of the most enviable situations any where to be met with, but also for being quite unique amongst all the churches of this island, on account of its form.



H. T. J.

Llanfair Pwll Gwyngyll.

G. A. H.

It will be perceived by the above plan that this building has a circular apse at the eastern end; and hence it may be inferred that the chancel, at least, is a portion of the original building erected here before the Anglo-Norman conquest of the country, and before that universal reedification of the churches of Anglesey, which took place in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries.

The total length of the interior of the building is fifty-one feet, the width at the western end fourteen feet, but in the

chancel eleven feet six inches. The walls externally have been rough laid, and internally bear an endless succession of coats of whitewash, so that there are at present no means of determining the date of the apse from any other datum than its form. The window that occurs in it is a plain square-headed one of two lights, of the seventeenth century. The other windows are all modern; the doorway alone is of the Pointed Style, and of Early Perpendicular date. The font, a plain and exceedingly rude circular basin, most probably that which stood in the original building, is placed on the eastern side of the doorway, close to it, and is raised on a rough base. A modern screen, or railing, runs across the church where the nave is narrowed, and cuts off the chancel and apse; but from the appearance of the plan it may be conjectured that the western portion of the building was a later addition, and that the original one consisted of only the narrower part or chancel, and the apse. An oblong aperture large enough for a man to pass through into the roof, occurs in the eastern wall of the chancel, over the apsidal arch, which is plain and circular. On the northern side of this arch is also an aperture, two feet eight inches square, leading from the chancel into the apse, and perhaps intended for confessional purposes.

A low stone bench runs all round this apse; the altar rails are under the arch; the altar table is placed lengthways in the axis of the church; and, by a most singular ecclesiastical abuse, which seems to have escaped the attention of the superior authorities, a family of lay persons now sit within the altar rails on the southern side of the table, while the officiating priest takes his place on the northern.

The bell turret, capping the western wall, is in singularly good preservation; and is given below as the most complete specimen of such an ornamental feature of a church still extant in the island. The walls of the nave and chancel are not more than two feet thick; and only ten feet high to the spring of the roof; those of the apse are three feet thick, and nine feet high to the centering of the vault. The vault is apparently of rubble, and shews internally three semicircular arches. A minstrel-gallery, of wood, occurs at the western end of the nave. The orientation of the church is East by North. It is under the invocation of the Virgin; and the festival day is on the second of February.



N. L. S. Bell-Turret, Llanfair Pwll Gwyngyll. G. A. W.

**LLANDYFNAN.**—In describing the church of this parish a double division of the subject is necessary; (1) of its condition before the late repairs; (2) of its present condition since they have been effected.

(1.) In 1844 the church consisted of three distinct portions, viz: a chancel, fifteen feet six inches, by thirteen feet six inches; a nave, twenty-eight feet six inches, by sixteen feet six inches; and a western nave, or additional part, twenty-one feet nine inches, by nineteen feet nine inches; all being internal dimensions. Walls and well-proportioned arch-ways divided the middle portion of the church from those that adjoined it. The whole was of good Early Perpendicular date. Over the western wall was a single bell-gable. The principal entrance was through a southern porch, and then under a square-headed doorway, with a nearly circular arch-way underneath into the western part of the church.



H. L. J.    Sculpture over S. Doorway, Llanddyfriant.    G. A. H.

A trifoliated loop occurred in the porch ; and on either side of the southern doorway were trifoliated niches, with crocketed canopies, and crouching monsters as corbels, containing the figures of saints. That on the western side was a female figure with a hood, and book in hand ; that on the eastern side was a male figure in a long gown, also holding a book, and apparently with a nimbus round the head. Above the doorway was a niche with a crucifixion, as represented in the annexed engraving. It included a representation of the Holy Trinity ; but the Dove, which ought to occur between the head of the Father and the Son, must have been chipped off. The whole was thickly covered with whitewash. In the western spandril of the doorway were figures of two dogs ; in the eastern figures of a hart and hind.

The key stone of the arch of this doorway bore the uppermost of the two heads given below ; but the spectator, on passing under it and looking up, saw the under surface to be sculptured into the lower one. There was a doorway and

entrance in the northern wall opposite to the former one, peculiar for its narrowness, being only two feet nine inches between the jambs, four feet seven inches to the spring of the arch, and two feet three inches thence to the point of intersection. These proportions gave it almost the character of Early Pointed work, but that the mouldings shewed it to be Early Perpendicular. The drip-stone, concentric with the arch, terminated on either side in two sphinx-like monsters, whose tails and limbs occupied the place of the usual return of the drip. A stoup for holy water was on the eastern side of this door inside, and another under a trifoliated recess was on the eastern side of the southern door, while close by stood the font, a plain octagon in form, on a similar undercut base. A wooden minstrel gallery of the seventeenth century occupied the western end of this part of the church.



H. L. J. Sculptured Heads, S. Doorway, Llanddyfnan. G. A. H.

The next, or middle, portion was lighted on either side by two square-headed windows with labels; and here stood the pulpit and reading desk, modern and most unsightly erections, on the southern side. The chancel had the remains of a screen under its arch, and was lighted by two square-headed labelled windows of two lights each, and of good Early Perpendicular work, one on each side. It had also one of the best proportioned eastern windows in the island; of three lights, ogee-headed and trifoliated, running up into vertical tracery in the head of the arch. The inner and outer splays of the arch, worked with deep and wide hollows in the middle of the section, gave a peculiarly good effect of light and shade.

The remains of rude benches, with ends finished as crosses, occurred here and there throughout the church; the principals of the roof had their collar beams rather low, but were softened off by under-struts into nearly circular curves. The summits of the eastern gable, and of the bell-gable, were furnished with the basements of crosses. This church certainly wanted repair, but on the whole it was one of the better churches, and one of the most remarkable in Anglesey.

(2.) In 1846 and 1847 the repairs were commenced and finished, and they are doubly instructive: first as shewing what great advances have been made in taste among country builders and workmen; and next, as indicating how much damage may be done, and even money wasted, by the poor economy of not consulting a good architect. All the main features of the exterior have been preserved, except the bell-gable and the crosses, both at the eastern and western ends. The large eastern window has been well repaired, and the square-headed ones have been nearly put in anew; their workmanship is good; the old ones have been taken as models, and the result is praiseworthy. The southern porch has been fitted with an outer door covered with enormous sham hinges, but the sculptures have been scraped of their whitewash. The northern doorway, however, has been widened unnecessarily, and thus a peculiar architectural characteristic has been destroyed. The bell-gable has been replaced by one so absurdly barbarous as to be below either criticism or description; and both it and the western wall in its upper part were so badly constructed, that though the mortar was then hardly consolidated, large cracks had, in January, 1847, appeared in various places. The mason employed observed, with great simplicity, that the stones of the coping would not remain in their places, but would slide off! so little had the commonest principles of construction been attended to. Some side copings without any object had been put on at other parts of the roof, and, with that on the eastern wall, produced a painfully ludicrous effect. Inside the church has been refitted with a new roof, the principals being on the most unscientific plan, with the ties high, and extra beams put on from the centre of the ties to the wall-plates, as if to aid the outward thrust. The body of the building is fitted with open seats, but the chancel is closely thronged with pews, and the altar table squeezed in

between two unsightly pews, one on either side ; the rails being, moreover, in sham, or what may be called carpenter's gothic. The repairs had evidently been well intended ; but, from having been entrusted to some one ignorant of mediæval architecture, bad building, needless expence, poor effect, and a narrow risk of ruining the whole building had ensued. The church is, however, not so much injured but that, at a future period, it may be suitably restored.

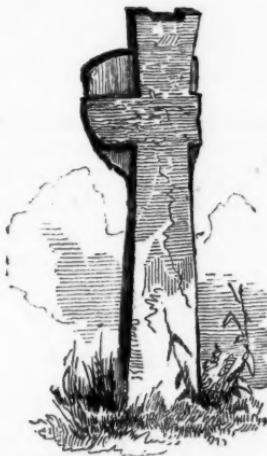
This church was erected under the invocation of St. Dyfnan, who flourished in the fifth century, and was buried within the building itself. (Rees's *Welsh Saints*, p. 142.) His festival is on the 23d of April. The orientation of the edifice is nearly due East. The large Maen Hir in an adjoining field, towards the South West, was still standing in 1846.



H. L. J. Cross on E. Gable, Llanfair Mathafarn Eithaf. G. A. H.

**LLANFAIR MATHAFARN EITHAF.** This parish, which lies upon one of the limestone plateaux of Anglesey, has a peculiarly bleak and desolate appearance. The only Mediæval building extant within it is the parochial church, situated in an uneven, rocky, and exposed locality. It is a rather long and low building, consisting of a nave and chancel ; the internal dimensions of the former being fifty-two feet six inches by sixteen feet four inches, and of the latter twenty-one feet by thirteen feet ; the walls are about two feet eight inches thick, and not more than nine feet high to the wall plate. The western end has a single bell-gable ; in the northern wall of the nave is an Early Perpendicular doorway, and a modern square window ; while in the southern

wall is a similar doorway and two windows, with a third window in the chancel. The eastern end of the chancel has a three light cinque-foiled window, with flowing tracery of Decorated curves, but of Early Perpendicular mouldings, similar to the eastern window at Llandyssilio. The eastern gable is capped by a simple cross, in good preservation. On the northern side of the altar is an ogee-headed trifoliated niche, four feet ten inches, by eighteen inches, and on the eastern side of the northern doorway is a small water stoup. The font, close to the southern doorway, is small, and of plain octagonal form. In the church yard, to the north west of the church, is a mutilated cross, still erect, with lead in some holes at the top.



H. L. J.

Cross, Llanfair Mathafarn Eithaf.

G. A. H.

The steps of two stiles, that lead into the church yard, are apparently fragments of very rude and ancient coffin lids, bearing the remains of early devices now scarcely to be decyphered. That at the south western corner of the church yard has a cross traceable upon it; they seem to be anterior to the twelfth century. The roof of this church is remarkable for the quantity of good, but light, timber used in its construction. There are some Druidical remains in this parish. The church is under the invocation of the Blessed Virgin. The festival is on the 28th of February; and the orientation is nearly due East.

H. L. J.

## Cambrian Archaeological Association.

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THE following is a complete list of all the officers of the Association appointed up to the present time, and is published by authority of the President:—

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The Right Reverend the LORD BISHOP OF ST. ASAPH.

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The following are the names of NEW MEMBERS who have been elected since the last list was published:

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 Beaver, Hugh, Esq., Glyngarth, Anglesey.  
 Bosanquet, S. B., Esq., Dingestow, Monmouth.  
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 Clifford, William, Esq., Perristone, Ross.  
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 Curzon, Hon. Robert, Junr., Parham Park, Sussex.  
 D'Avezac, M., Secrétaire de la Société Géographique de France, Paris.  
 Davies, J. M., Esq., Pantyfedwen, Cardiganshire.  
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 Evans, Pierce, Esq. Aberystwith.  
 Evans, Rev. John, Llanover, Abergavenny.  
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 Gabb, Baker, Esq., Abergavenny.  
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 Hill, the Right Hon. Viscount, Hawkstone, Salop.  
 James, R., Esq., Aberystwith.  
 Johns, Alexander, Esq., Carrickfergus.  
 Jones, Basil, Esq., B.A., Queen's College, Oxford, and Gwynfryn, Cardiganshire.  
 Jones, Rev. W. A., M.A., Northampton.  
 Jones, Llewelyn, Esq., M.D., Chester.  
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 King, Rev. W. Hamilton, Parsonage, Cheetah Hill, Manchester.  
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 Lewis, Thomas, Esq., F.S.A., Colonel of the Monmouthshire Militia, St. Pierre, Chepstow.  
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 Llandaff, the Very Rev. the Dean of, Llandaff.  
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 Morice, James, Esq., Wallog, Cardiganshire.  
 Morris, Rev. J. W., Bron Meirig, Cardiganshire.  
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 Parker, J. H., Esq., F.S.A., Oxford.  
 Parry, Rev. Henry, Llanasa, Holywell.  
 Parry, Mr. Edward, Chester.  
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 St. David's, the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of, Abergwili Palace, Caermarthen.  
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 Sweeny, Dennis, Esq., Chester.  
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 West, Frederick R., Esq., Ruthin Castle, Denbighshire, and Arnewood House, Lympington, Hants.  
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 Williams, Rev. Edmund Turberville, M.A., Caldecot, Chepstow.  
 Windsor, the Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of.  
 Wright, Thomas, Esq., M.A., F.S.A., Membre de l'Institut de France, du Comité Historique, &c. &c., 18 Gilbert Street, Grosvenor Square.

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Miss Angharad Llwyd, Rhyl, St. Asaph.  
Mrs. Madocks, Tregunter, Brecon.

Miss Madocks, Tregunter, Brecon.

Miss Jane Williams, Neuadd Felen, Talgarth.

**TRANSACTIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION.**

THE President has decided that the First Annual Meeting of the Association shall be held at Aberystwith, during the second week of next September. The precise days of the opening and closing of the meeting will be announced to the members in the July number of the *Journal*; and the general arrangements of the proceedings, &c., will then be officially declared. Meanwhile members are requested to make known this circumstance to their friends; and to concert measures, with the General and Local Secretaries, for the preparation of papers to be read to the meeting, for the exhibition of antiquities, &c. Indeed, the sooner the officers of the Association are acquainted with the wishes and the intentions of the members, the more easy will be their task of making the requisite arrangements. To prevent labour being thrown away on subjects already in hand, it may be stated at once that papers are now in preparation on the following subjects: — The Local Antiquities of Aberystwith; the Roman Remains in Merionethshire; and the History and Architecture of Strata Florida Abbey.

By authority of the President, the title of "Patron" of the Association has been appropriated to the Right Reverend the Prelates of Wales; and their Lordships, in the most courteous manner, have signified their acceptance of this office.

A class of Honorary Members has also been constituted by authority of the President, and is especially reserved for those Ladies who may honour the Association with their names.

**DONATIONS.** — The Treasurer has communicated the following list of donations received by him on account of the Association:—

	£	s.	d.
Sir Stephen Richard Glynne, Bart., M.P., President.....	10	0	0
The Very Rev. the Dean of St. Asaph .....	5	0	0
The Very Rev. the Dean of Llandaff .....	5	0	0
Rev. Henry Wall Tibbs .....	1	0	0
James Dearden, Esq., F.S.A. .....	5	0	0

*JAMES DEARDEN, Treasurer.**Manor, Rochdale,*

**COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED.** — The Local Secretary for Anglesey has communicated the intelligence, by desire of Sir Richard Williams Bulkeley, Bart., M.P., that in uncovering some ground in Dinmor Park, at Penmon, for a quarry, about one hundred yards west of the Priory Church, numerous graves were lately found. They appear to have constituted the parochial burying-place; some of the skeletons found having been identified as those of females. The graves, which all pointed east and west, were mostly formed of rude slabs of stones placed upright to form the sides and ends, the foot-

stone of one grave being the head-stone of another; slabs were then placed on the top as coverings, but no slabs were placed underneath, the bodies resting on the soil. Some of the skeletons were very perfect; but no articles of dress, no metallic nor other ornaments, no coins, &c., were found. The bones have been removed to the present church-yard and there interred.

The Rev. John Williams, M.A., General Secretary, has communicated that whilst the workmen were lately engaged in clearing the foundation of the Old Church, at Flint, which, owing to its dilapidated state, was obliged to be pulled down preparatory to its thorough restoration, several curiously sculptured stones and tiles were discovered, which are likely to throw much light on the character and history of a former edifice, as well as on the date of that which has just been destroyed. These venerable relics, through the kindness of Mr. Brown, the incumbent, are carefully preserved; and illustrations of them will probably appear in a future number of the Journal of the Association.

The Local Secretary for Caernarvonshire has sent word that Lord Newborough has recently repaired a portion of the walls of the town of Caernarvon in a judicious and substantial manner, reflecting great credit on his Lordship's taste and judgment. It was hoped at Caernarvon that Mr. Assheton Smith would also repair his portion of the walls, and then through the joint liberality of that gentleman, the Marquis of Anglesey, and Lord Newborough, the town walls, which are all but complete in their entire circuit, would be in a condition worthy of the castle. The repairs of the castle are going on inside that building, the outside having been finished, and the result is exceedingly satisfactory.

The members of the Association are requested to forward to the Local or General Secretaries any antiquarian information or discoveries that may occur to them; and to consider nothing too insignificant for communication, *if duly authenticated*. In all cases names and dates, and the name and address of the observer, should be given accurately.

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### Correspondence.

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ON ROMAN ROADS TENDING TOWARDS WALES, FROM THE CHESHIRE STATION OF CONDATE, IN KINDERTON, AND FROM THE SALT WORKS NEAR TO IT; AND ON A DISCOVERY OF ROMAN COINS IN ITS VICINITY.

*To the Editors of the Archeologia Cambrensis.*

GENTLEMEN,—In the first volume of the *Archeologia Cambrensis*, (p. 465,) mention is made of the Roman Station at Condate, in Kinderton, and of the roads diverging from it, as objects of Cambrian interest, with reference to the salt carried into Wales from the pits in its vicinity. As my History of Cheshire is noticed, and as a discovery of coins, since its publication,

identifies, *as a Roman line*, the road from Kinderton to Chesterton, which was previously conjectural only, and *thereby* consigns to the uses of Wales and its marches, other lines tending more to the westward, I subjoin the particulars.

In my account of this Station, (*Hist. Chesh.* iii., p. 2,) I cited Whitaker's own words with respect to his own discovery of it, as time and alterations had made intermediate ravages. In the following mention of three lines of road considered to have diverged from it, in the direction of Wales, (in all which the Ordnance Surveyors coincide with me,) I use modern names instead of those of the Itineraries, for the sake of clearness to the general reader, and waive notices of intricacies in distant points irrelevant to the present discussion, as for instance, with respect to the "*Mediolanum*" of Chesterton, and the other "*Mediolanum*" of the Tanad lately alluded to in your pages. These three lines are as follows:—

I.—The well known Kind Street, bearing from Kinderton on Northwich, and continued thence by the North Watling Street to Chester.—(*Hist. Chesh.* vol. iii., p. 2.)

II.—The line traced by Dr. Bennet, (Bishop of Cloyne,) through Nantwich Hundred in the direction of Wroxeter and the South-eastern Watling Street, and of course towards the Stations of Merionethshire and Caernarvonshire.

III.—The line traced by myself, near the *western* side of Bradwall, by Boothlane, towards the west of Sandbach, which there combines with the results of Bishop Bennet's investigations, as to its continuation towards Worcester and the Severn.

Mr. Whitaker assumed, from local names, from Iter X. of Antonine, and Iter X. of Bertram's Richard of Cirencester, that "another road *must* have extended (from Kinderton) by Street Forge and Red Street to Chesterton near Newcastle. Its *actual line*, however, was unknown when I wrote, and therefore I left the question open, and suggested the *possibility* of its having diverged from Road III. above mentioned." (vol. iii., pp. 2 and 3.) Very shortly afterwards, the artificial gravel-bank of Whitaker's road was discovered, and line III. (as far as can be gathered from the direction of its clearly distinct commencement) may now be left to pursue its south-western course towards the valley of the Severn, without necessity for ramification or deviation.

This gravel bank was found accidentally, about two feet below a peaty surface, by a tenant of my late relative, Dr. Latham, in opening a water-course through "Brindley Moors" farm, on the *eastern* side of Bradwall. This is exactly in Whitaker's conjectured direction, and its genuineness was further attested by Coins, as follows:—

In 1820, a mole-catcher, working in Brereton, at a short distance from the farm mentioned, and that of about four miles (direct) from the Kinder-ton Station, at a point where a small brook is crossed by the footpath from Brereton to Sandbach, struck his paddle against something resembling a mass of fused metal, contained in a decayed box, but afterwards found to consist of about a thousand Roman Coins, bound together by verdigris and rust. Nearly six hundred of them are in my possession, which are partly broken and corroded, and partly good specimens of the denarii ærei of Gallienus, Claudio II., Tetricus, the two Tetrici, Victorinus, and Diocletian.

This discovery, so near to the central point of the diverging roads, gives strong confirmation of the genuineness of the Station itself, which has been unattested hitherto by such evidence, and (as before mentioned) completely proves the Chesterton line to have been distinct from the Welsh communication.

With respect to the passage relating to King Henry's efforts to embarrass the Welsh by obstruction of Cheshire Salt Pits, cited from a translation of Camden, (p. 466, *Arch. Camb.* vol. i.) it may be doubted whether the translator, and whether Camden himself, in his genuine Latin text of 1607, referred to Middlewich alone, or to all the Witches, but it is clear that Camden's author, Matthew Paris, referred to all.—“Rex (Henricus) puteas fecerat salinarum de Witz obturari et everti.” This citation proves resort of the Welsh in 1245, probably in continuation of previous traffic. It is observable, however, that DOMESDAY, which notices minutely the interests of the Earl Palatine and his tenants in the Salt works, and the restrictions imposed on the merchants who carried salt for sale *within the Cheshire Hundrede*, says nothing of *supply to the adjacent realm of Wales*. It is, however, clear, that a devastation, like the subsequent one of Henry III., had taken place when the conqueror's army entered Cheshire, and within the salt districts in particular, and it is probable that the traffic had not been restored, or regulated, when DOMESDAY was compiled.

I remain, Gentlemen, yours very truly,  
GEO. ORMEROD.

Sedbury Park, Chepstow, Feb. 13, 1847.

#### TURPILLIAN AND BROCHMAEL INSCRIPTIONS.

*To the Editors of the Archaeologia Cambrensis.*

GENTLEMEN,—In a notice of the *Archaeologia Cambrensis* contained in the last number of the *Journal of the British Archaeological Association*, published on the 1st inst., the writers (T. W. and C. R. S.) suggest that the stone bearing the Turpilian inscription (*Arch. Camb.* vol. ii. p. 25) may have been broken, and the suspected Oghams merely a broken line giving the age of the person or persons, to whose memory the monument was erected. This is an ingenious suggestion, but had the writers seen the stone itself, (to say nothing of the similar arrangement and number of the oblique strokes to the Kenfegge marks,) I am sure they would not have proposed such a suggestion.

They further suggest that the eighth letter in the first line of the Brochmael inscription (p. 30) is not a G, being more of the shape which S occasionally takes; that the third letter in the second line is surely not an M; and that the letter preceding the word CAUNE, in the third line, looks much like an F. I refer these writers to the numerous examples of the letter G given by the Benedictines, (Nouv. Tr. de Dipl. pl. 20, 21, 37, 42, &c.,) where they will find the G exactly of the form represented on the stone. It is rather extraordinary that the writers should have fallen into such a blunder, seeing that in a preceding article of the journal (signed with the initials C. R. S.,) the letter G occurs twice in the words VIRGO and DIOGENES, copied from the Roman Catacomb Inscriptions, having precisely the same sickle shape as on the Brochmael stone. I have no hesitation in re-affirming the third letter of the second line to be an M, whilst the want of a middle cross line (to say nothing of the correct spelling of the word *Ejus*), proves the tenth letter of the third line to be an S of the ordinary Irish and early British form.—I am, Gentlemen, your very obdt. servt.,

JNO. O. WESTWOOD.

Hammersmith,  
12th February, 1847.

## ANCIENT WELSH VERSION OF THE GOSPELS.

*To the Editors of the Archaeologia Cambrensis.*

GENTLEMEN,—I trust you will allow the following interesting Circular of an Archbishop of Canterbury of former days to appear in your truly patriotic publication. The Latin original is given by Browne Willis, in his *St. Asaph*, App. xxii., pp. 54 and 55.

The Circular mentions a singular fact, namely, the existence of an ancient Welsh version of the Four Gospels, called *Eueggulthen*, kept in the Cathedral Church of St. Asaph, and carried about by the canons for exhibition, as a highly valuable relic. It was in the Cathedral, it is said, at the time of the Roman Catholic Bishop, Goldwell, who was deprived of his benefice on the accession of Queen Elizabeth, when he withdrew to Rome; and it is supposed the Bishop took the manuscript with him to Rome. He was a learned man, and set a great value on the manuscript; but it was never seen after Bishop Goldwell had left. Inquiries have been made after the MS. in the Vatican, but it could not be found there. Bishop Goldwell is said to have died at the English College in Rome; and there is a picture of him now in the Convent of the Theatins, in Ravenna. No inquiries have been made after the MS. in either of these two places.

Now, should these observations come under the notice of some of your antiquarian readers who may have friends in Rome, I should, for one, be everlastingly obliged to them for setting on foot an inquiry both at the English College, and at the Convent of the Theatins, to see whether they contain the manuscript or not. Should it be still in existence, it would rejoice the heart of many, and mine in particular.

Bishop Goldwell was succeeded by Bishop Richard Davies, afterwards Bishop of St. David's. When at St. David's, Bishop Davies assisted Sir William Salesbury in translating the New Testament into Welsh, the first translation of the New Testament that ever appeared in print.

In his preface, or rather in a letter prefixed to this edition, Bishop Davies mentions his having seen, when a lad, a manuscript translation, into Welsh, of the Five Books of Moses, at the house of an uncle of his; but which, he stated, was afterwards lost. In his letter, he produces several strong reasons in favour of the Bible, or at least great portions of it, being early translated into Welsh; and what is most remarkable, he makes no mention whatever of the *Eueggulthen*, or the Four Gospels, to which the Archbishop's Circular refers. I take it, therefore, for granted, that he was entirely ignorant of its existence. Yours, &c.

BALAON.

*Translation.*

The Circular of John, Archbishop of Canterbury, in favour of the Canons of St. Asaph, in Wales, carrying about the Scriptures.

Brother JOHN, &c., to all Clergymen, as well as Laymen, in the Dioceses of Coventry, Lichfield, Hereford, and the Welsh Dioceses, health and peace everlasting in the Lord. *The book, or text of the Gospels, belonging to the Church of St. Asaph, commonly called EUEGGULTHEN*, which, as we have learnt, is held in great veneration in parts of Wales, and the Marches, among all classes, and is, for divers reasons, sometimes honourably carried about the country, as a holy thing, by clergymen of the aforesaid Church; We have been led to recommend the text to your community, as well as the persons here described, who carry it about, beseeching you so far, by your reverence to Christ, who is the author of the Gospels, to allow the clergy-

men spoken of, journeying among you with the above mentioned text, to rejoice in the benefit of safety and peace in their going, tarrying, and returning.

Given under our hand, 14th July, in the year of our Lord 1284.

### TOMBS OF THE BERKROLLS FAMILY.

*To the Editors of the Archaeologia Cambrensis.*

GENTLEMEN,—I should be obliged to any of your Glamorganshire correspondents for an account of the effigies on the tombs in St. Athon's Church, of the Berkrolls family, as well as the pedigree of that family. Sir Lawrence Berkrolls, who died in 1411, was, I believe, the last of the family. In Llansanor Church, near Cowbridge, is to be found an effigy of a knight; I conclude it belongs to some of the Basson family, from whom the Gwyn' possessed Llansanor. Any light thrown on these subjects will be very useful to an Antiquary, and make, if possible, your valuable work more interesting to

Yours obediently,

February, 1847.

Z.

### A PASSAGE FROM TALIESIN.

*To the Editors of the Archaeologia Cambrensis.*

GENTLEMEN,—In the ancient Welsh Bard Taliesin's Poem of the Battle of Argoed, there is a passage which describes the haughtiness of Flamddwyn, or Ina, King of Northumberland, when, in the insolence of success, he demands hostages of the Britons, in the hour of *their* discomfiture, and of *his own* triumph; and the indignant refusal of them by his determined adversaries, who preferred fighting to the last extremity rather than yield to what they considered degrading terms. This passage has been frequently paraphrased, but probably never fairly translated. The original runs thus:—

Attorelwis Flamddwyn fawr drybestawd  
A ddodant gyngwystlon ? a ydint parawd !  
Yr atebwyd Owain ddwyrafn flossawd,  
Ni ddoddynt iddynt, nid ynt parawd ;  
A Chenau mab Coel byddai gymmwawg llew,  
Cyn y talai o wysti nebawb.

The following spirited paraphrase of this passage appears in Jones's *History of Breconshire*.

"Flush'd with conquest, Flamddwyn said,  
Boastful at his army's head,  
Strive not to oppose the stream ;  
Redeem your lives, your lands redeem.  
Give me pledges, Flamddwyn cried ;  
Never ! Urien's son replied :  
Owen of the mighty stroke,  
Kindling as the hero spoke :  
Cenau, Coel's blooming heir,  
Caught the flame and grasped his spear ;  
Shall Coel's issue pledges give  
To the insulting foe and live ?  
Never such be Briton's shame :  
Never, till this mangled frame,  
Vanquished like a lion lie,  
Drenched in blood, and bleeding die."

Unfairly treating the above as an English translation, and not a paraphrase, as it is, Theophilus Jones somewhat disingenuously attacks it in the following stinging couplet :—

“The sterling bullion of six British lines,  
In English wire, through eight bright couplets shines.”

As a matter of fair play to the satirized party, I must protest against the assertion so often made by my countrymen, and insinuated in the above epigram, that an English translation of Welsh poetry cannot be condensed into an equal number of lines with the original. With great deference to the numerous Cambrian opinions opposed to mine, I beg leave to submit to your readers the following *six lines*, which pretend to be a translation of this Welsh passage ; by which temerity, I am aware, I place myself at the mercy of a party whose name is legion.

Flamddwyn the great, with recent conquest cheer'd  
Cried, “Give they hostages? are they prepared?”  
Brave Owen, of the uprais'd brand replied,  
“They'll not give hostages—they are denied!  
And, like a lion, Cenau, Coel's son,  
Will rush to battle ere he yieldeth one !”

Fidelity in the translation is all that is here aimed at; as to the *sterling bullion* spoken of in Mr. Jones's epigram, I fear, to confess the truth, there is very little of it in this small affair, either Welsh or English.

Yours obediently,

Abergavenny, 10th August, 1846.

LLEWELYN PRICHARD.

### Miscellaneous Antiquarian Notices.

**CAMBRIA ROMANA.**—A club of gentlemen is now forming for the personal examination of all the Roman antiquities in North and South Wales and the border counties, and for the compilation of a complete *Cambria Romana*. As this is a work of great labour and time, we request our readers and correspondents to contribute their aid, so far as to favour us with whatever observations and information may occur to them on this subject. Any indications of Roman camps, roads, buildings, coins, &c., will be particularly valuable, and will be duly acknowledged. In this, if in any, enterprise, “the smallest donations will be thankfully received.” We would recall to the recollection of our readers the “Questions and Instructions on Roman Remains,” published in our first volume, pp. 353, 416, as good guides for any person who wishes to turn his attention to enquiries of this kind. The number of the club is not yet complete, but we do not recommend any except hard-working, we may almost say hard-reading and hard-walking, antiquaries to seek for admission into it; inasmuch as the amount of patient, long-enduring, labour required for observations of this nature,—extending, as they must, over several years,—will be very great. Communications on this subject may be addressed to the Editors.

**ROMAN ROAD OVER CADAIR IDRIS.**—Some of our Merionethshire friends would greatly oblige us by making a note of the following communication, sent by a gentleman well acquainted with that county, and by endeavouring to find out the ultimate bearings of this line of road. “Upon the east end of Tyrrau Mawr,—the western point of Cadair Idris,—is a zigzag path descending the mountain, and which is said to have been a Roman

road. It is to be seen from a great distance; though it is not now so clearly developed as it was some years since. This road may be expected to be found raised above the surrounding turf."

The very curious set of moulds for casting metallic spear-heads and celts, lately found in Anglesey, and accurately engraved in the *Archæological Journal*, vol. iii. p. 257, has been purchased by James Dearden, Esq., F.S.A., Treasurer of the Cambrian Archæological Association. The forms of the moulds strongly resemble those of certain Roman and Greek weapons, and a learned correspondent has suggested that these moulds are not of British origin.

**KILPECK CHURCH, HEREFORDSHIRE.**—A subscription has been set on foot for the repairs of this highly curious relic of Early-Norman architecture, and a committee has been formed, at the head of which is the Very Rev. the Dean of Hereford. Mr. Cotttingham, the architect, whose late repairs of the Norman Tower at Bury St. Edmund's, at Hereford Cathedral, at Rochester, &c., have done him so much honour, is entrusted with the work; and we shall be glad to hear that the list of names is speedily filled up. As yet only about £250 have been raised; but a sum of £600, in all, is wanted in order to do justice to the building, which is one of the most remarkable of any on the Welsh border.

**LLAN DARFEL, MERIONETHSHIRE.**—We observe, in a letter in the last series of Sir H. Ellis's *Original Letters*, that a gigantic image of St. Darvell Gadarn was brought from this village at the time of the Reformation and burnt in Smithfield. It appears that the parishioners offered £40—a vast sum of money in those days—to redeem it; but Cromwell's agents would not let it remain. Can any of our Merionethshire correspondents give us information concerning this church and parish? Can they find any traces of this transaction in the parochial registers or other local documents?

**BANGOR DIOCESAN CHURCH BUILDING SOCIETY.**—A most excellent and important regulation has lately been adopted by this society, to the effect that in future no grants of money shall be made for building, repairing, or enlarging churches unless the plans, estimates, &c., in each particular case, shall have been deposited with the society at least three months previously. By means of this simple rule, ample time will be given for enquiry into the merits of whatever plans, designs, &c., may be sent in; and, from the character of the members of the committee, it may be confidently expected, not only that all undue cost of estimates will be closely looked to, but also that proper regard will be had to the maintenance of sound principles of ecclesiastical architecture. The Vandals have not had a more effective check than this put upon their proceedings for a long time.

**CLYNNOG CHURCH.**—We understand that steps are taking in influential quarters, in the diocese of Bangor, for procuring funds towards a complete restoration of this remarkable cross-church. It will be highly satisfactory to learn that so fine a building is put into a suitable condition of repair. We trust, too, that on this occasion the holders of the rectorial tithes will bear their part of the expenditure, in a manner worthy of the church and of Jesus College.

**TOWER OF VALLE CRUCIS ABBEY.**—A correspondent has called our attention to the following passage in Churchyard's *Worthiness of Wales*, printed A.D. 1587, from which it would appear that the central tower of

the Abbey was then standing. Speaking of Llangollen, Churchyard says,

"An Abbey nere that mountsyne towne there is  
Whose walls yet stand, and steeple too likewise."

Whenever the rubbish is cleared away from the interior of the abbey,—but "woe worth that day" for the lovers of the picturesque!—we conjecture that many treasures will be brought to light.

**THE TUDUR FAMILY.**—Can any of our correspondents furnish us with information as to the remote ancestor of Major Tudur, of Tenby, South Wales, who is supposed to have emigrated to England about the beginning or middle of the 15th century, having married an English heiress who had estates in Rutlandshire, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire, which estates remained in the family until 1767. His descent from Marchweithian, founder of one of the fifteen tribes of North Wales, down to about A.D. 1670, is required.

**ADDITION TO THE LIST OF REPRESENTATIVES IN PARLIAMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF MERRIONETH.**—In 1674, "William Price, Esq." Col. Wm. Price, of Rhiwlas, occurs as M.P. for the county.—W. W. E. W.

A GOLD NOBLE of Edw. III. has lately been found in a field near Penmaen Mawr, Caernarvonshire, and is now in possession of Mr. Roberts, watchmaker, Bangor.

**ERRATA.**—We have erroneously stated in this present number, p. 109, that the gold Nero was found on Moel Fenlli. It was discovered in 1823, in a field on a farm at Llanrhudd, in the vale of Clwyd, not far, however, from the base of that mountain.—Vol. ii. p. 95, for "Cors-y-Gedol" read "Nannau;" the Vaughans of Cors-y-Gedol are from a different stock.

**MARGAM, GLAMORGANSHIRE.**—A correspondent wishes to learn, from some of the Glamorganshire antiquaries, where an inscribed stone, taken from Margam Mountain by Dr. Hunt, now is; and also, whether the inscription on it be of the same nature as that on the Kenfegge stone?

**THE HEROINES OF WELSH HISTORY.**—This is a tempting title for any work, and we hope that the author will come up to our expectations and do justice to the subject. Mr. Llewelyn Prichard states, in his prospectus, that he intends comprising in it "Memoirs and biographical notices of the celebrated women of Wales, especially the eminent for talent, the exemplary in conduct, the eccentric in character, and the curious by position, or otherwise."

### Reviews.

1. **THE EXISTING REMAINS OF THE ANCIENT BRITONS, WITHIN A SMALL DISTRICT LYING BETWEEN LINCOLN AND SLEAFORD; &c.** By the Rev. G. OLIVER, D.D. 1846, pp. 57.

Although this little work relates to antiquities found on the eastern side of the Lloegrian land, yet, inasmuch as it concerns the habits of our Celtic forefathers, and perhaps of some true Cymry, we do not hesitate to introduce it to our readers.

"Nihil *Celticum à me alienum puto.*"

Dr. Oliver, whose learned works on Freemasonry are so well known, and who has already shown himself an antiquary in another line, by his *Account of*

*the Religious Houses formerly situated on the Eastern side of the river Witham,* gives in this short pamphlet an interesting account of numerous British Barrows, and other remains, in one of the most open parts of Lincolnshire. A considerable number of notes accompany the text, and evince, as might be expected from the author's character, much deep reading. We are rejoiced to find him so well inclined to Celtic antiquities, and we cordially invite him to step over the Marches, and come with us to explore some of our Caernarvonshire and Merionethshire carneddau.

The Lincolnshire barrows Dr. Oliver considers to have been often intended as beacon-stations : —

Many of these hills were used for beacons, and the telegraphic system was carried to considerable perfection in this district. Intelligence was conveyed by means of a fire by night and a smoke by day ; and on urgent occasions by the simple expedient of shouting to each other from the summit of these beacon hills, which were frequently dedicated to Teut, whom the Romans called Mercury. And many of them are called Teut hills to this day. Cesar noticed this practice and has recorded it in his fifth book of the Gaulish wars. He tells us that the system was carried to such perfection, that on urgent occasions, the people might be raised in twelve hours through a tract of country 160 miles in extent. And his assertion is amply borne out by the appearances in the country south of Lincoln ; for a line of beacons extended along the heath ; another occupied the ancient road from Lincoln to Sleaford by the towns ; and a third pervaded the high land that skirts the fens by Walcot, Timberland, &c., which at that period was flanked with by a deep and impervious wood, where their sacred and mysterious orgies were periodically celebrated.

In addition to these beacons, detached tumuli are distributed through the whole of the district. At Kyme, on the east side of Cardyke, is a tumulus of large dimensions, from which were taken in 1820 some British spear heads ; and the prospect from its summit is very extensive. At Anwick were several ; as also at Aswardby and Asgarby ; at Burton, Catley, Kirby Green, Haydon, Heckington. Scredington, Silk Willoughby, Quarlington, Walcot, Linwood ; and they exist in some other places, where the appearances are so remarkable as to merit a particular examination.

On the high ridge of the heath, as I have already observed, is a series of lofty conical mounds, though much reduced in altitude by the plough, at the distance of about half a mile from each other, which retain the name of beacon hills ; all composed of fictitious soil ; and extending along the whole line of heath. One of these hills on Blankney heath is a cairn or tumulus of stone ; another on Scopwick heath is called Butter hill, and is composed of a light sand heaped on a surface of limestone. From this eminence the prospect would extend over an ancient camp in Blankney parish, called Castle Banks, to Lincoln, before the heath was planted. It commands the whole line of beacons from that city to Sleaford by Metheringham and Blankney ; and through an avenue in the hills towards the north-east, the wolds between Spilsby and Louth are distinctly visible. From another mound on the same heath the view extends to Wragby. There is a remarkable barrow on the heath within the precincts of Temple Bruer which is composed of clay. This beautiful mound has been much reduced in its dimensions by the process of agriculture ; but at this time it measures 270 feet in circumference at the base. It is doubtless funereal, although it bears the name of Mill-hill, as having subsequently been the site of the Temple mill ; for by excavations made in the summer of 1832, I found manifest tokens of an extensive interment, in calcined wood, straw, and bones of both men and horses, forming a nucleus in the centre of the clay, which was brought from Wellingore, a distance of two miles.

We cannot, in our limited space, give any thing like a complete sketch of all the Celtic remains in this district ; though they seem to be of high interest. The following quotation will serve as a specimen : —

So numerous were the British tumuli in the small district before us. They form a striking evidence of the occupancy of that singular people ; and their identity is confirmed by the existence of a monument which cannot possibly be attributed to any other race of men. I allude to the stone idol at Anwick, alluded to in the History of Religious houses, p. 172. It is evidently of a very high antiquity, and perhaps coeval with Stonehenge, which is perhaps the most ancient monument at present existing in the world, and was probably erected by the Hord Gaeli, the first

settlers in the island of whom we have any account. It occupies an imposing situation on the sloping side of a hill, which commands an extensive prospect ; and a considerable number of people might conveniently assemble on the plain to witness the sacrifices that were periodically offered to the deity of which it was the visible representative. It retains its primitive appellation of the "Drake Stone," and stands about half a mile from Anwick Church. In magnitude it measures about 6½ feet long by 4½ broad and 7 feet high, and may perhaps weigh 20 tons. The upper part is flat, and the lower extremity has been so contrived as to present an artificial aperture through which the human body might pass in a prostrate position ; and it is of an oval or egg-like form, because the Egg was an emblem of divine power ; and the name a corruption of Draig, the Celtic appellation of one of the chief deities of ancient Britain, who was no other than the patriarch Noah, who was almost universally worshipped as the regenerator of the world.

2. *ITER LANCASTRENSE.* A Poem, written A.D. 1636, by the Rev. RICHARD JAMES, B.D., Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford ; now first printed from the original MS. in the Bodleian Library, Oxford. Edited by the Rev. T. CORSER, M.A. (CHETHAM SOCIETY'S PUBLICATIONS. Vol. vii. 1845.)

This curious work, which from its title might be supposed to have no reference to Wales, will be found from the subjoined extract to be worthy of the perusal of the Welsh antiquary. The poem forms but a small portion of the publication, being preceded by a long literary and biographical account of the author, and followed by a copious body of notes ; in the compilation of which the editor has evinced great industry and research. Indeed it is highly creditable to him as an author to have been able to build up a volume round so small a nucleus. James was a learned man of his time, and a traveller as far east as Russia. Mr. Corser says of him :—

In 1636, James wrote the Poem *Iter Lancastrense*, which forms the text of the present volume, and is now published for the first time. He appears to have arrived on a visit to Heywood Hall, in Lancashire, then inhabited by the ancient family of the same name, and whilst enjoying the hospitalities of that mansion, to have made various excursions to different parts of Lancashire and Cheshire, and even to Derbyshire and Flintshire, which are described in the poem.

The Poem itself may be considered as one of the most interesting and remarkable of James's writings, both from the subjects of which it treats, and the singular and affected style in which it is composed. It may be almost said to be made for annotation ; as indeed the author seems to have thought, by his own frequent marginal observations ; and his quaint phrases, ancient proverbs, and constant allusions to the works of the learned, with which he was so conversant, as well also as his local notices, require frequent elucidation.

The extract which we give from the poem will speak for itself, and will be very intelligible to all men of Flint and Holywell. We should premise that James bore a most inveterate hatred towards the Roman Catholics.

I joy to tell  
 Our next niew sallie to ye holye well,  
 Foure miles beyond Flint castle, where our age  
 Doth yet behould a doting pilgrimadge.  
 Authors, yt legends write and holye tales  
 Without book, say yt whilom dwelt in Wales  
 An amorous young prince calld Caradoc,  
 The sonne of Alaine, born of Royal stock,  
 Enflam'd of loue of fairest Winefride,  
 Lord Thebith's daughter, whoe had promised  
 Vpon Beunos preaching, to liue aye  
 A votall virgin till hir dying daye  
 But, when hir parents vnto church were gonне,  
 Into ye house came Caradoc anonне,  
 And, as he found hir setting by ye fire  
 Vndrest, he quickly opend his desire.

To which she mildly sayd, " pray, Sir, let be,  
 Until my parents from ye church you see  
 Returned ; you are ye prince, and soone may gaine  
 Their good consent to make their daughter raigne  
 A Queen by marriadge : better cloathes I will  
 In ye meane time put on, for to fulfil  
 Your lawfull pleasure." To hir chamber so  
 She went, and soone doth through à posterne goe  
 To save hir self. She fled, he did pursue ;  
 Loue grew to rage, and forth his swoard he drieu,  
 With which at one blowe, with an angrie looke  
 Hir louely head he from hir bodie tooke.  
 The head fell downe, and tumbling rowled was  
 Into ye Templ where ye priest said mass :  
 Beounous was ye priest ; so ghastly sight  
 Sett him and all ye people in à fright :  
 Yet takes he up ye head, and marches on  
 Vnto the body with procession.  
 Curse falls on Caradoc, and he with it  
 Doth vanish straighway to infernall pitt.  
 The holy man doth often kisse hir face,  
 And then it aptly on hir body place.  
 Bothe covered are with mantle, till he goe  
 Againe to church and end his masse belowe,  
 First breathing in hir nostrils ; by which breath,  
 At their returne, she raised is from death  
 As from a sleepe, he prayng, and ye men  
 Whoe there came with him, saying, " Lord, Amen ;"  
 And raised is as perfitt as before,  
 Saving yt all hir after life she wore  
 A circel in ye juncture white as milke,  
 Which seemd to view a thread of finest silke :  
 And so, not loozing aught but in her name,  
 She thence from Breuns Winefride became.  
 With Britaines wen is white ; but stained red,  
 Still are ye stones where ravish't was her hed  
 From off hir bodye in à fountaine cleere,  
 Which at this cruell deede did first apeere,  
 Since curing each disease, each sore and grief  
 In those which of this Ladie seek'e relief.  
 Reade Surius and Baronius, whoe more,  
 From Thomas Asaphs Bishop keeps in store.  
 But Capgraue says, and truth he says I weene,  
 All things yt are related are not scene.  
 Nay, here we see, ye lame, ye halt, ye blinde,  
 Bothe rich and poore, no health can ever finde,  
 And manye pilgrims dye vpon ye place,  
 Whoe on their bare feete seek'e hir healing grace.  
 Nay, nothing of the name of Winefride  
 Is in Geraldus or Galfridus read,  
 Whoe ye surveye did write and ye storie  
 Of their deere Wales, in which they glorie.  
 Theis learned clercks of Wales of her knew naught,  
 Or waud such tales as Salope Robert brought ;  
 They neither him nor yet Elerius cite,  
 Though summe men say they bothe of hir did write.  
 But here to Tempiers cell were monkes put in  
 Vnder our seconde Edward : then beginne  
 Theis craftie fables : stories they invent ;  
 They purchase pardons which from Rome are sent ;  
 They builde à structure, chappell, cloysters rownd  
 Aboute ye well ; to put off clother they founde  
 A joining roome : in seventh Harryes time  
 And in Queene Maries, with such toys they chime

Much people in with coyne to buye no health,  
 But to encrease their Greeme-field Abbyes wealth.  
 The smocks which now for bathing we doe hire,  
 Were then belike theis monks rent and desire.  
 From natures secretts poets storyes faine ;  
 Naught else of poets doe theis monks retaine.  
 This faire cleere spring, which courses through ye hills  
 Conveys summe metall tincture in hir rills,  
 Which they make staine of blood.

**3. LAYS FROM THE CIMBRIC LYRE.** By GORONVA CAMLAN. 1 vol. 8vo.  
 pp. 271. London : W. Pickering. 1846.

This is a volume of Poems emanating from a son of Cambria exiled to the banks of the Cam ; and we have to congratulate him on this effort of his Muse. The poems are on a great variety of subjects, few of them long, and most of them in the form of short odes. Throughout them there breathes a truly poetic spirit, and they are tinged with a veneration for antiquity which especially recommends them to our notice. From what we have now before us we are inclined to expect more important productions on the part of the author ; we observe in him much vigour and harmony, — both of them essential qualifications, — and no doubt they will shine forth more prominently when he shall have arrived at the maturity of his powers. The following is a favourable specimen of the poet's style : —

**WELSH RIVERS.**

Dost thou ask of old immortal streams ?  
 Go and climb Ereiri's steep,  
 Where the rainbow-winged angel dreams  
 Hover o'er the poet's sleep :  
 'Tis there where Memorie's bright-eyed daughters  
 Play by the Glaslyn's azure waters.  
 Does thy heart beat high at actions brave ?  
 Go and gaze on the gentle Wye ;  
 'Twas the scene of Freedom's bloodie grave,  
 And Llewelyn's latest sigh.  
 Ah, lightlike deems the stranger cold  
 Of all our patriot brave of old.  
 Go and muse by the Conwy's roaring fall,  
 Where the rocks are white with foam ;  
 Or the glen where it sleeps 'mid forests tall,  
 Whiche o'erhang its amber home ;  
 There let the bardic waves prolong  
 The memorie of our sons of song.  
 Thou wilt love in the Vyrniew's pleasant vale  
 On its woodland banks to linger ;  
 Thou wilt go where the Dee still tells its tale  
 Of the blind immortal singer,  
 And echoes dim of wondrous lore  
 Are heard along the haunted shore.  
 In the Dovey's waves the salmon play,  
 And I love its everie hill ;  
 It is there, as erst in Cambria's day.  
 Thou wilt find the Cymry still.  
 Flow on, my own ancestral river,  
 Flow brightlie, merrilie, for ever !

A

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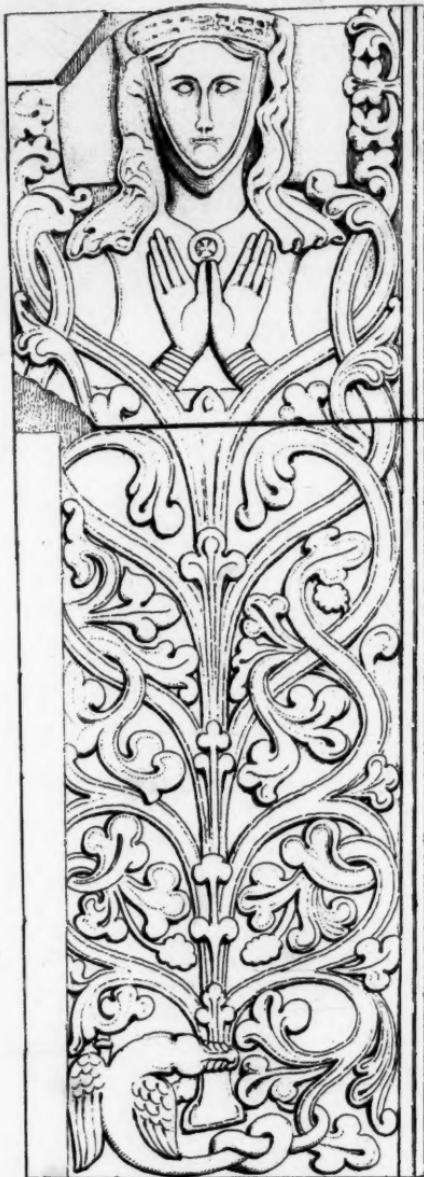
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# *Archæologia Cambrensis.*

No. VII.—JULY, 1847.



## DRUIDICAL REMAINS AT TREGUNC, NEAR CON-CARNEAU, DEPARTMENT OF FINISTERE, LOWER BRITANY.

As the antiquities of Armorica are anything but foreign to the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, notices relating to their transmarine brethren must possess a high degree of interest for its readers, and in particular, whatever is illustrative of the

religion and manners of their common ancestors. It is manifestly impossible to arrive at anything like a philosophical conclusion, with respect to the genius and character of Druidism, without a more extensive and accurate induction of its remains than has hitherto been made ; and every monument, independently of its locality, must be regarded as a valuable addition to our store of information on the subject. Indeed, the more widely such researches are extended, the more important must be their results, as presenting to us at once the common and distinctive features of the Druidical system, as it was established among the various Celtic nations.

The Druidical stones of Trégunc, in the department of Finistère, which are second only to the celebrated remains at Carnac, among the Breton monuments, and probably among those of continental Europe, were visited by the writer in company with a friend, early in the month of July, 1842. Our road from the episcopal city of Quimper, the place of our temporary sojourn, lay in a south-easterly direction, for about six *lieues de poste* ; and, for about half that distance, it led us across an elevated and desolate tract of country, partly open and barren ; partly enclosed by high sod banks, and bearing marks of former tillage, but now abandoned to the dominion of gorse and *balan*, *Cambricè* "*banal*." But the distant prospects were of a more inviting character. On our left the bleak serrated ridges of the Montagnes d' Arrés and Montagnes Noires stretched far inland, and served to remind the Welsh traveller of the long ranges and rugged peaks of the Caernarvonshire mountains, though their elevations were as nothing in comparison. To the right, at a few miles' distance, lay the great Bay of Biscay, gleaming in unruffled splendour beneath a brilliant meridian sun, and its distant horizon tempting the imagination to wander far beyond it to the land of chivalry and mediæval grandeur, romantic Spain. Towards the west appeared the Glénan isles, a rocky archipelago ; and further still, a creek winding far inland, and shining at intervals like silver through the dark verdure that bordered its course, received at Quimper the combined waters of the Odef and Benoclet. Beyond this the coast-line trended off in a south-westerly direction, and terminated in the wide Atlantic beside the ruined city of Penmarch'. Our contemplation of

these beauties was presently interrupted by the loss of a horse's shoe, a misfortune incidental to travellers in all countries, but peculiarly oppressive in Britany, where country blacksmiths are all but unknown. In course of time we met a solitary peasant, and catechised him in our best Bas Bréton:—"Pet leo da Goncq?" "how many miles to Concarneau?" (the nearest town); to which question we received the consolatory reply,— "Leo anter," "a league and a half." This accident sadly retarded our movements, and necessarily curtailed the time we intended to devote to the examination of the monuments at Trégunc. Slowly we approached the sea shore, and soon afterwards crossed one or two deep dells of surpassing beauty, the abrupt sides of which were clothed with brushwood, while the bottom was occupied alternately by sand and sea-water according to the state of the tide. At length we reached Concarneau, a small fortified town, situated on an islet lying in the wide mouth of a tide-river, and approached on one side by a drawbridge, on the other by a ferry-boat. We passed the sentries at the gates unchallenged,— perhaps fortunately, for we had left our passports behind us,— and being now enabled to advance at a quicker pace, proceeded towards the object of our search.

The small *commune* of Trégunc is about a league to the east of Concarneau, on the road to Pontaven and Quimperlé, and at no great distance from the sea-shore. The surrounding ground is level, or but slightly undulating, and is screened on the eastern side by a long low ridge of rising ground. As we approached it, an amazing spectacle burst upon our sight. The whole plain, to an extent of some two or three square miles, was covered with gigantic masses of unhewn granite of all shapes and sizes, scattered about, so far as we could judge, in complete and utter confusion. They bordered the highways, studded the open plains, encumbered the corn-fields, crowned the rising hillocks, and peered above the straggling oak copsewood; but by far the greater number formed the appropriate decorations of a wild and dark-looking heath, over which the road lay. And not only was there no general arrangement perceptible, but monuments of all conceivable kinds seemed to be huddled together without reference to each other: here stood a single upright stone; here ran a line, and there a circle;

and here rested an enormous cromlech. The general impression, therefore, upon the mind of the beholder was that of *infinity*, resulting from the combination of magnitude and multitude with utter irregularity. To enhance the effect, just as we reached the place, the sky, which had been hitherto unclouded, became partially overcast, and spread a sudden gloom over this strange plain with its mysterious monuments of ancient superstition. Under such sombre influences, the mind was enabled forcibly to realize the notion of its having been a primæval place of sepulture; the huge masses of stone, scattered independently over the ground, gave it the appearance of a gigantic churchyard; and this view of its original design is actually confirmed by the name of the adjacent village, as interpreted by the native antiquaries. *Trégunc* is translated "the place of sorrow," and the meaning of the word *Tre* is obvious from the analogy of the Welsh language. The other element of the name is not quite so clear. Perhaps it is formed from *koún*, which is translated sometimes "sorrow," sometimes "memory," in the latter case being cognate to the Welsh *cóf*.<sup>1</sup> If we take the combination of these factors as the true meaning in the present instance, we shall find it tolerably appropriate to a burial-place; namely "regret," *desiderium* or *hiraeth*.

The attempt to give a particular description of these wonderful remains would be altogether hopeless; and we had at the time little more hope of being able to single out, and examine, the most remarkable among so great a number and variety of monuments. Fortunately we espied a placard by the way-side, bearing the usual inscription, *Le cantonnier est à cinquante pas*; and hard by sat the functionary who was tethered to his post, engaged in the useful occupation of stone-breaking. By his aid we discovered what has the reputation of being a rocking-stone, and is thus described by M. de Fréminville in his *Antiquités de la Bretagne*:—

"At the distance of a league from Concarneau, near the village of Trégunc, on the side of the road leading to Pont-Aven, is to be seen a Celtic monument of a kind, which we have not yet had occasion to speak of. It is a rocking-stone, that is to say a solid stone of considerable size, placed in

<sup>1</sup> The Armorican language substitutes a softened *n* for the final *v* of the Welsh; as, han, goan; for *haf*, *gauaf*.

equilibrium, and, as it were, suspended on the summit of another stone, generally fixed in the earth. The upper stone, in spite of its size and weight, can be easily set rocking by a single man. Such monuments are not uncommon elsewhere in Britany; and Wales and Cornwall possess a great number of them. The stone of Trégunc is of enormous volume, being eleven feet in its greatest length, and eight feet thick. It is by a projection on the under side, like an inverted cone, that it rests on a point of rock nearly level with the ground, and thus stands in complete equilibrium. I set it in motion with the greatest ease.<sup>1</sup>

The words of M. de Frémiville are here adopted, from a wish to avoid the responsibility of asserting that the stone really did rock. The *cantonnier* professed himself perfectly satisfied with the experiment, and we humbly acquiesced in his decision, though not without considerable hesitation. There can be no doubt, however, that the stone we saw is that described by M. de Frémiville; for it exactly tallies with it in form, size, and position; and the loss of its oscillatory power may be accounted for by the turf having grown around its base, a consummation which the writer just alluded to has elsewhere predicted.<sup>2</sup>

Having procured a guide at the adjoining village, we visited some of the more remarkable monuments. One of these, called in the language of the country *menhir*, (i.e. *maen hir*,) is represented in the accompanying sketch. It stands a little to the north-west of the village, on a slight declivity; and must be about twenty-four feet in height, the circumference at the base being of very considerable extent. However, we had no means of determining its dimensions with any degree of accuracy, so that we were content to form a rough estimate of it. Into its summit a plain cross had been inserted, bearing witness to the reverence with which the stone had been regarded previously to the introduction of Christianity, and of which the early missionaries had thus attempted to avail themselves in the propagation of the true faith. A still more remarkable example of a *menhir* decorated with Christian emblems occurs at Lannion, in the department of the Côtes du Nord. There is great reason to believe that many of our churches were founded upon sites previously

<sup>1</sup> *Antiquités de la Bretagne*; Finistère, première partie, pp. 324, 325.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* seconde partie, p. 513.

regarded as sacred. Druidical monuments have been found close to some; and the yew trees by the side of others are said by naturalists to bear a date anterior to the Christian æra. In like manner, when Christianity became the established religion of the Roman empire, and the Church was translated from the Catacombs to the Basilicæ, her congregations assembled on the sites, and often within the walls of the pagan temples. Such has ever been the policy of the Church, as distinguished from that of the elder dispensation. The latter destroyed the groves of the idolaters; the former worshipped in the temples of the heathen; the one strove to annihilate, the other to absorb and assimilate all elements external to itself; the one was exclusive, the other Catholic.

Contiguous to the monument just described, we found an immense pile of stones of the kind called in the country *dolmen*. Its height was about fifteen feet; the upper stone, in length at least five and twenty feet, rested horizontally on a single stone very much smaller than itself; but this latter was propped up on all sides by huge masses of granite. We could not get to the top, but our guide informed us that he had found a great cavity on it, and we saw a kind of channel running from it, down the side of the stone. A very similar monument at Constantine, in Cornwall, also bearing the name of *Tolmen*, is figured in Dr Borlase's history of that county.<sup>1</sup> The principal stone, or table, has in like manner a number of cavities on the upper surface, with small channels running down the side. This may help us to the true derivation for the word *dolmen*. Our *cicerone*, indeed, furnished us with one of a singularly inartificial character, which may serve as a specimen of rustic etymology. He traced the word to *daon men*, — “*parce-qu' il y a deux pierres au moins.*” The first syllable is evidently *toull*, *Cambricè*, “*twill*,” “a hole;” but then follows the question, where we are to look for the hole. Dr. Borlase, in the work alluded to,<sup>2</sup> assumes that it refers to the passage between the pillars and under the superincumbent mass, and this opinion has been elsewhere adopted. But in the great *dolmen* at Trégunc there was no such passage, as we have already seen that the principal mass was supported on a single stone only. It

<sup>1</sup> Borlase, *Antiquities of Cornwall*, pp. 174, 219.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* p. 176, note.

is possible that the cavity on the summit (which upon the supposition that the *dolmen* was an altar, would probably be designed for depositing the oblations) has given name to the whole structure, as being the most important part of it. The classical reader will at once call to mind a passage of Pindar, describing an altar discovered by the Argonauts on the shores of the Euxine:—

—“Ενδ’ ἀγνὸν Ποσειδάνων ἔσταντ’ ἐναλίου τέμενος,  
Φοινίσσα δὲ Θρηικλων ἀγέλα ταύρων ὑπάρχειν  
Καὶ νεόκτιστον λίθων βωμοῖο θέναρ<sup>1</sup>”

Here *θέναρ* is interpreted *τὸ κοῖλωμα τοῦ βωμοῦ τὸ ὑποδεχόμενον τά θύματα*, being properly the hollow of the hand (*ἀπὸ τοῦ θελνειν*); and it is used synecdochically for the whole altar, just as we may conceive the word *dolmen* to be. The monument at Trégunc rose out of a small grove of oak trees, by which its picturesque effect was considerably increased, and our imaginations vividly recalled to the oak-worship of the Druids.

In addition to the remains here attempted to be described, four circles, more or less perfect, are mentioned by M. de Fréminville;<sup>2</sup> but we were not so fortunate as to find them; and it is by no means evident that what he terms *un dolmen des dimensions les plus prodigieuses*,<sup>3</sup> is identical with that which has been described. But in fact, amid such a wilderness of wonders, the omission of one or two, even of the most remarkable, monuments is a very venial offence. It is less easy, however, to conceive how a French *savant* should have made a tour in Finistère, and written a book about it, without breathing a syllable about these wonderful monuments of antiquity. Such, however, was the case with the *citoyen Cambry*, whose *Voyage dans le Finistère* has been regarded as a paragon of accuracy, and certainly contains an immense quantity of valuable matter of all kinds. But how its author could have travelled to the adjoining town of Concarneau,<sup>4</sup> which he describes with great minuteness, and absolutely makes mention of the *commune* of Trégunc, without once visiting the remains in question, it surpasses

<sup>1</sup> Pind. *Pyth.* iv. 204, aliter iv. 361, *var. θεόκτιστον λίθινον*

<sup>2</sup> *Antiq. de la Bretagne*, Finistère, seconde partie, pp. 512, 514.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* p. 147.

<sup>4</sup> Cambry, *Voyage dans le Finistère*, Brest, 1836, p. 354.

our ingenuity to determine. Could he have walked blindfold through them? Yet surely he would have stumbled upon some of them. Or else he was so wrapt up in his revolutionary cogitations, that the collision with them inflicted less pain upon him than the pebbles of Llyntrigraienen did on the more sensitive giant Idris. Idris, too, is recorded to have been a philosopher; but then we nowhere read that he was a *philosophe*.

It is impossible to quit the subject without expressing a hope that something may be done towards recovering the mythological and religious system of the ancient Druids. The Eddas of the North, the Râmâyana and Mahâbhârata of the East, have been made the subject of philosophical investigation and minute critical analysis, no less than the heroic mythi of ancient Hellas. But of the religion of our ancestors, whose monuments are all around us, we know absolutely nothing; while the relics of our bards and other early writers, which alone can give us any clue to its interpretation, are lying in our libraries unpublished, or at least unstudied. The ingenious author of the *Celtic Researches* really did make an attempt to reconstruct the Druidical system out of the fragments of it which we possess; but perhaps it will not be considered presumptuous to pronounce it a decided failure. Such an attempt would be well worthy of the contributors to the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, as being both highly interesting in itself, and of the utmost importance in filling up, what is now all but a blank in history, that of the primitive state of this country. But it is no holiday task. Manuscripts must be searched, traditions collected, the romantic poems of other countries examined, and all subjected to severe critical investigation. And the wonderful remains that still exist scattered through Britain, France, and Ireland, and haply in other countries also, must be carefully inspected, compared, and classified; so that those, who shall ultimately have succeeded in restoring Druidism to light, may be enabled to appeal to the silent testimony of such mighty monuments as those of Avebury and Stonehenge, Carnac and Trégunc.

WILLIAM BASIL JONES.

Queen's College, Oxford.

INSCRIBED STONES, LLANNOR,  
CAERNARVONSHIRE.

No. 1.



No. 2.



THE accompanying sketch represents two tombstones, or rather two inscribed side-stones, of a grave close by a little cottage called Bandŷ-yr-mynydd, on the farm of Pempris, in the parish of Llannor, in the promontory of Lleyn, in Caernarvonshire. The sketches are accurate, as they were taken from the stones themselves and afterwards compared with a rubbing. The tomb was first discovered some years ago, in pulling down a hedge, under which it extended at right angles. The two hexagonal columns were then placed one on each side of the bones of a large man, the feet to the south; there was a head-stone and a foot-stone, and the whole covered by two slabs, one only of which now remains. Here are also two Meini-hirion of large size, about 160 yards from each other, and bones have frequently been dug up near one of these Meini-hirion. These circumstances, coupled with the name of the surrounding land being called Tir-Gwyn, convince me that the ground was consecrated as a burial-ground in the time of the Druids. The grave, however, must be of later date; and my impression is, that it is the work of the Britons, who soon after the departure of the Romans, here attempted a Latin inscription, and having still some reverence for the sacred ground of the Druids, buried their chieftain within its holy precincts; for I should not suppose they would, in

those remote times, have paid such honour and bestowed such pains as an inscription, like the one in question, must have cost, on a person who was not of some consequence. As to the inscription itself I shall only offer a few suggestions. I read it,

IC VEN RHIFIDI  
ETERNI... HIC JACIT.

Of the word **IC VEN** the translation would be high-headed, haughty, supposing it to be in old Welsh orthography. We have many instances of individuals being thus named from peculiarities or deformities which they possessed, as Talhaiarn, iron-browed; Owen Lawgôch, red-hand; Garen hîr, long-faced; Paledur, pillar; Owen Grwg, hump-backed; Cilmin Troed ddu, black legged; Rhyddarch Grochfol, (*vulgo*) big bellied Dick, &c. all proper or rather nick-names. A friend suggests **EVAN** in old spelling; I will leave my readers to decide for themselves on the chaotic mass I have laid before them. **RHIFIDI** I take to be the Latinized form of Griffith in the genitive, as in the Turpilian, Culidorian, and Brochmaelian inscriptions; as the latter part of the word **ETERNI** is rather doubtful, it would be impossible to give a satisfactory explanation; it seems, however, to be a contraction. **HIC JACIT** (a mistake for **JACET**, which needs no comment) is very easily decyphered. My attempt at translation would therefore be, "Here lies to all eternity the body of Griffith the haughty." As to the letters of the inscription, they are well defined, though not deeply cut; a mixture of the Roman and Bardic, for the letters are all Roman except the third in the first word, which I take to be the Bardic **u** or **v**; and the second and sixth in the last word, the first of which letters I read as the Bardic **h**, the second as the Bardic **d** rudely cut. Dr. O. Pughe's is the alphabet I have consulted with reference to the Bardic characters. Of the inscription on the second stone I can make nothing; indeed the letters can scarcely be decyphered as they are not cut deep. The stones must have been brought from near Llanelhaiarn, as there are none of the kind any nearer. I have not yet succeeded in finding any trace of the inscription in this parish mentioned by Pennant, vol. ii. p. 202.

T. L. D. JONES PARRY.

The drawings and rubbings of the above inscriptions having been communicated to J. O. Westwood, Esq., he has kindly furnished us with reduced copies of them, and with the following observations:—

“The circumstances connected with the locality where these stones were found appear to be very interesting, and I should think that the existence of the Meini-hirion on the spot was sufficient to indicate the person here buried to have been of note.

“It is, of course, difficult to give an opinion on the rubbings of stones rudely carved, as these and other similar ones are, and which are often more satisfactorily to be decyphered by the finger than the eye. I think, however, Mr. Parry is not right in his reading. I thought at first, on reading his note and looking at his sketch in which the inscriptions on both stones are represented as formed of equal sized letters with strokes of equal thickness, that the inscriptions must be taken together as constituting one memorial, in which case they might be thus read, *VIN.....(stone No. 2), ICVEN....FIL...ETERN...HIC IACIT* (stone No. 1), which would bring it near the ordinary formula; but the thinness of the strokes on stone No. 2 seem to oppose such an opinion, unless it can be stated that the two stones are not of equal hardness, which would account for the sculptor making the letters on the hard stone (No. 2) less deep.

“Of the name on stone No. 2, I can give no opinion without examining and feeling the stone; I should think, however, it might be made out. The name seems allied to that of *VINNEMAGLI*, recorded on one of the four upright stones at Gwytherin, Denbighshire; but the second letter seems more curved in the rubbing than drawn by Mr. Parry; it appears indeed to be an *E*.

“With regard to the inscription on stone No. 1, I read the letters *I, C*, the next is possibly an *A* reversed, *E, N*, the next is surely an *A* and not an *R*, as may be seen by comparing it with the *R* in *ETERN* and *A* in *JACIT*, the next may be *L* slanting to the left, then *i*, followed by *FIL...I—ETERNO?*<sup>1</sup> *HIC IACIT*—that is,

**ICAENALI FILI ETERNO HIC IACIT.**

I think all the letters are Roman more or less debased.

<sup>1</sup> The Bodvoc inscription on the Margam Mountain, (which, after several hours' search, I found last autumn sacrilegiously thrown down,) has the word *ETERNALI*, and most of the *A*'s turned upside down.

"Allow me to suggest the advantage, in respect to inscriptions as difficult as the ones before us, of making two rubbings. They mutually elucidate each other in endeavouring to decypher the writing. I will only add that as I am forming a collection of rubbings of all the early inscribed stones of Wales, I shall feel materially obliged by the communication of any such duplicate rubbings; my correspondents may rest assured of their being turned to good account in labours to arrive at a knowledge of the palæography of Wales."

[The stones on which these inscriptions are found are, most probably, of the prismatic clink-stone kind, which occur in the neighbourhood of lines of Volcanic disturbances, in various parts of the Caernarvonshire Mountains. They may be seen well developed at Twll Du, above Llyn Idwal. Edd. *Arch. Camb.*.]

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### SEGONTIACI.

#### No. II.

IN entering into a minute detail of a particular event in history, the authority of a co-temporary writer, or of an eye-witness, is too important to be neglected, however trivial or unimportant. Gibbon, with a view of reconciling the conflicting testimonies of the Augustan writers, many of whom were far removed both in time and space from the events recorded by them, has on some occasions committed errors, from overlooking some of the most obvious and material sources of information. A more attentive perusal of the panegyric writers, whom he treats with indifference, would have afforded him a better clue than those he has adopted, in the developement of some historical facts, which he has either underrated or misrepresented, by placing too much reliance on his own conjectures. In applying these remarks to the events immediately preceding the birth of Constantine, it will be found that Gibbon both mistimes and misplaces the battle of Vindonum, the locality of which he attempts to identify as Vindonessa in Switzerland, transferring the date of it from the reign of Aurelian to that of Diocletian, and omitting altogether the name and exploits of Constantius Chlorus, till brought into notice by the Emperor Probus.

We are supplied, however, with the evidence both of a contemporary and an eye-witness of the earliest occurrences in the military career of Constantius, which furnish many particulars of interest and importance towards investigating the birth-place of his illustrious son, and determining a question, which in the language of Gibbon, "has been the subject not only of literary but of national disputes, his fame having rendered posterity attentive to the most minute circumstances of his life and actions." During one of the frequent visits which Constantine paid to the city of Treves, where he had a splendid palace, before the removal of the imperial seat of government, an *Æduan* professor of rhetoric, in a public address, appealed to him on behalf of the citizens of Augustodunum (Autun) in which he reminded the emperor of the services, both in ancient and modern times, rendered by the *Æduan* state to the Roman republic, and of the claims they had on the state-funds towards the reparation of the public buildings, which had been demolished during the late rebellion. From this oration it appears that they had earnestly applied to Cladius Gothicus for assistance to suppress the insurrectionary movement which threatened the dismemberment of the western provinces; that they had withstood a siege of seven months, till forced from necessity and want of provisions to open their gates to the insurgents (*rebelles Gallicani*); that they were under peculiar obligations to his father, Constantius, for the services that he had rendered them, and that, had Aurelian (*ille Reipublicæ restitutor*) been in a condition to second their efforts, peace would have been restored and the provinces recovered without any damage, and without the slaughter which ensued at Châlons, in Champagne, "*sine ullo detimento Romanarum virium; sine clade Catalauniâ.*"

From the general tenor of this address, it may reasonably be inferred that Cladius had, a short time before his death, at the earnest solicitation of the *Æduan* deputation, entrusted the command of the forces in Gaul and Britain to Constantius, in order to quell the insurrection under the banners of Victoria and her adherents, which had at this time assumed a formidable appearance; and that he had fulfilled this commission by obtaining a signal victory over them on the banks of the Marne, while the Emperor Aurelian was actively engaged in the most distant parts of the empire.

Allowing one year to have elapsed during these proceedings in Gaul, A.D. 271 may be assumed as the date of his expedition at the head of his legions across the British channel, to suppress the same spirit of insubordination which had pervaded the whole of the western provinces. The prevalence and extent of this combined effort to throw off the Roman yoke and to assert a national independence, which was to embrace the whole of Spain, Gaul, and the British Isles, may be estimated from the great variety and abundance of the coins struck on the occasion. If Britain deserved the title of "fertilis tyrannorum," Segontium is equally entitled to distinction, from the abundant supply of their coins which are found in its ruins. That Segontium was in the occupation of Tetricus, and one of the strong-holds of this faction, is extremely probable. One remarkable case of the discovery of his coins took place about ten years ago, at a farm called Llwyn y gwalch, within three miles of it, where a great number of them were found under the foundation of the homestead, many of which have been deposited at the museum at Caernarvon.

In the total absence of every matter of fact to direct our enquiries, it would be but idle conjecture to suggest the probable landing place of Constantius in this his first expedition into Britain. The possession of Segontium would, doubtless, be an object of importance in the revival of the Roman authority here. There are numerous legendary traditions, current at this day in the neighbourhood, of the marching of Roman troops from hence in the direction of MONS ERYRI station, into the interior of the country. Constantius might have led his legions from Arfon, along the banks of the Severn, into Hampshire, where matters came to a final issue on the plains of Vindonum, about the year 272. The fields, on which this sanguinary affair took place, embrace a considerable portion of the hundred of King's Clere, now forming a distinct parish called Lichfield; a name given them probably by the Belgic inhabitants of this part of Britain, as bearing evidence to a late period of the carnage and human remains by which they were distinguished. Such is the interpretation of this word, given by Johannes Guallensis, a monk, of Worcester, who flourished about the year 1260, in a work entitled *Communiloquentum*, in which he says that, like Golgotha, it signified a field of dead bodies,

Lichfield being in fact a compendious translation of the expressions applied by the panegyrist in the presence of the Emperor Constantine, "campi strage completi et ossibus operti."

The next military achievement ascribed to Constantius, and recorded in connexion with the Gaulish rebellion under Tetricus, was the battle of Langres, (*victoria Lingonica*,) in which he is said to have been seriously wounded. This must have happened after the slaughter at Vindonum, about the time of the return of Aurelian from the conquest of Arabia, and on the eve of his triumphal entry into Rome, about the year 274. In the interim of these events, there can be no doubt as to the birth of Constantine about the year 273; and as there are so many contingent circumstances already mentioned in favour of the assumption that Constantius was the principal agent in the pacification of the western provinces, and that a great portion of his time was spent in Britain between A.D. 271 and 274, there is strong presumptive evidence of his having formed a matrimonial engagement with a British lady, of which Constantine was the issue.

In reviewing the indirect evidence already adduced in support of the fact of Constantine's birth having taken place in Britain, the circumstances under which his father was brought up to the profession of arms are worthy of more especial notice. Being nearly allied to the emperor Claudius Gothicus, the founder or parent, as he is styled, of the Flavian family, his early advancement in military rank may be assumed as a necessary consequence of such a connexion; and many of the exploits ascribed to him, and particularly that on the plains of Vindonum, must have been performed prior to the year 273. The revolt of Tetricus had not created any alarm when Claudius was proclaimed emperor, his coins at this period acknowledging the imperial authority in having the name of Claudius on the reverse. It is to be observed also, that this emperor, in a letter addressed to the senate, in which he expresses his determination of taking immediate steps for suppressing this revolt, omits altogether the name of Britain, as being concerned in it, and confines it to Gaul and Spain. As Claudius died soon afterwards, and nominated Aurelian as his successor, whose services were immediately required in the eastern provinces of the

empire, we may reasonably conclude that Constantius Chlorus had the task assigned him, by his imperial uncle, of vindicating the Roman arms in the western provinces, and that he was mainly instrumental in their recovery. The Aeduan deputation at the court of Claudius, to solicit his assistance during the siege of their chief city of Augustodunum by the adherents of Tetricus, afforded the first occasion for his military services, the name of Constantius being frequently connected with the welfare of that city. Eumenius alludes to this siege, and the heavy calamity it underwent, before any relief could be afforded. He designates this outbreak as a Batavian rebellion, of a piratical character, and dwells largely on the services which he rendered it in repairing their pecuniary losses, and restoring their public buildings, insomuch that he was styled the second founder of this city. Among the improvements ascribed to him were the restoration of the public baths, (lavacra : mineral springs abounding in the neighbourhood,) and inducing the settlement of the *Methyci*, or medical practitioners, from the British word *Meddyg*, or medicus. From the evidence of the panegyric writers, it also appears that Constantius had it in contemplation to render Augustodunum the metropolis of the Gallic provinces, and to invite persons of distinguished merit and abilities from distant provinces to take their abode here, by rendering it the seat of the liberal arts and sciences, "ex amplissimis provinciarum ordinibus incolas novos," &c. These projects, however, were not completed until after the suppression of another Batavian rebellion, of a similar kind, under the banners of Carausius, and the delivery of Britain a second time from piratical tyranny through the instrumentality of Constantius, in A.D. 293. These two usurpations, under Tetricus and Carausius, are frequently confounded together, and thus occasion so much obscurity, as to render it a difficult matter to develope the British history of this period. The successful result of this second expedition of Constantius into Britain had the effect of releasing British commerce and skill from the thralldom, under which they had been for seven years oppressed and discouraged by a horde of Franks, under the command of Carausius.

Britain appears at this time to have acquired great repute for manufacturing skill and architectural proficiency.

It was from hence that Constantius got a supply of handi-craft "artifices transmarinos," for embellishing and adorning his favourite city of Augustodunum, and for the restoration of the temples, courts of justice, and other public and private edifices, which had lain in ruins from want of competent skill in their re-construction. The Belgic orator already mentioned, who was an inhabitant of this city, in his address to the Emperor Constantine, urges him to visit Augustodunum, and to bestow on it the same liberality in repairing their public buildings as he had done at Treves, whose basilicæ and palaces were of the most splendid description. Cotemporary with this orator, and resident in the same city, was Rhedicius, a writer of some eminence, whose origin may be traced to the neighbourhood of Segontium. They were probably some of the new inhabitants, or descended from them, whom Constantius had induced to take up their abode in this city, for the cultivation of science, or the promotion of religion. Rhedicius, or Rhedyw, as he is styled in the genealogies of the British saints and founders of churches, was advanced to the highest office of the Christian Church, at this time flourishing in this city, under the auspices of Constantius, or more probably of Helen, the former having died in the early part of the fourth century. His name occurs among the writers of the Arian period of church history as "Augustodunensis apud Heduos Episcopus," and he is represented in the genealogy as the father of the celebrated Germanus, though the interval of time which separates them, viz. from A.D. 316 to 430, renders this fact very questionable, except upon the assumption that the chronology of these early events is very uncertain, particularly with regard to the date of the mission of Germanus into the principality, to suppress the Pelagian heresy. That Rhedicius was a native of Arfon, there are existing evidences connected with the church which is dedicated to him on the river Llyfni, in the names of places contiguous to it, and the current traditions of the neighbourhood. A well, formerly enclosed within a small building, which supplies water for the ancient octangular font, is called Ffynnon Rhedyw, and a tenement at some distance his Eisteddfa, or seat.

That an Arfonian should be found at this early period filling so high a situation in the Gallican Church cannot excite surprise, when we consider that the Romans were great

promoters of scholastic institutions both in Britain and Gaul from the time of Agricola, and that the emperors, particularly those of the Flavian family, are highly eulogised for their zeal and liberality in patronising and encouraging the superior native talent, "nobilissimam illam indolem," of these provinces. The foundation of collegiate establishments, and the erection of porticos or galleries for the cultivation of literature, and the extension of the arts and sciences, may be traced to the reign of the Antonines, if not to the time of Agricola, and were some of the principal means adopted towards the civilization of western Europe. "Cui enim unquam veterum principum tantæ fuit curæ ut doctrinæ atque eloquentiæ studia florerent, quantæ his optimis et indulgentissimis dominis generis humani, quos ego, quantum ad votum pietatemque pertinet, liberorum nostrorum parentes appellare non dubito." EUMENIUS, *De instaurandis Scholis, &c.*

J. J.

(To be continued.)

## PROCEEDINGS

BEFORE THE COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED BY THE LORDS OF  
THE LORDSHIP OF BROMFIELD AND YALE, AND STATUTES  
AND ORDINANCES MADE AT THE GREAT COURT OF THAT  
LORDSHIP, HOLDEN AT CASTLE LEON,

ANNO 7<sup>o</sup> EDW. IV., A.D. 1467.

No. II.

Constable.

Itm and yf any psone or psones be comitted or delived to the kepinge of the Constable of the Castell of Lyons or to his Deputee for any condempnacion in any of the lords Courts w<sup>t</sup>in the said lordshipp of Bromfeld and Yale and aft<sup>r</sup>ward he or they so committed or delived be lettyn to baill or maynprice or ells in any oderwise goo at large or eschape out of prison The Constable shal be bounde to content and paie w<sup>t</sup>out delay or contradic<sup>c</sup>on to the creditor all suche somes of money as the said p<sup>i</sup>soner or p<sup>i</sup>soners be committed or delived fore to the kepinge of the said Constable.

Constable p<sup>r</sup>o eschape.

Item it isordeined that if any psone or psones be comitted or

delyvd to the Constable for felonie or treason or for any oder outlarye of dette or trespass and aftir eschape by negligence of the Constable or his Deputee or Deputees to forfette to the lorde for evy suche eschape by negligence a C. s.

Constable p<sup>ro</sup> eschape.

Item it isordeined that if any psone or psones be comitted or delyvd to the kepynge of the Constable for felonie or treason and aft<sup>r</sup> warde eschape by the assent of the Constable or his Deputee or Deputees The said Constable to forfette to the lorde for evy suche eschape voluntarie a C. m<sup>rc</sup>.

Constable p<sup>o</sup> eschape.

Item yf any psone or persones atteynte or owtelawid of felonie or treason beinge hereaf<sup>t</sup> in the kepinge of the Constable or of his Deputee and aftir eschape owt the Constable for evy suche eschape shall forfette to the said lorde a C. ii.

Constable.

Item if any psone or psones be delyvd or comitted hereaf<sup>t</sup> to the kepynge of the Constable for any arrerage dette fynes peynes amercyments or any oder dewtes dewe to the lordes The saide Constable shall not delyv<sup>r</sup> any suche psone or psones so comytted or delyvd in no wyse but by endenture made betwix the saide constable and the lords Resseyvor upon peyn to make pleyn satisfaction to the lorde w<sup>t</sup>out delaie or condradiccion of all suche arrerage dettis fynes peynes amercymentes and oder dewtes dewe by theym or any of theym so comitted or delived.

Constable.

Item it isordeined if any psone or persones be arrestid brought and delyvd into the kepynge of the Constable for any offence or cause The Constable shall w<sup>t</sup>in xv dayes aftir their comynge in to prison do kalender the names of all suche prisoners in the boke remaynynge w<sup>t</sup> the Resceyvor and the causes and maters wherefor he or they be browght into prisone fore And also who bringeth hym or theym to the Constable uppon peyne to forfette v. m<sup>re</sup> as ofte as the Constable pforme not the ordynance in evy poynt

or doth the contrarie in any poynt And that the Resceyvor attende evy xiiiij. nyght to resceive of the Constable the names of all suche prisoners y<sup>t</sup> ben brought into the Castell uppon the same peyne.

#### Baylly.

Item it isordeined that if any Bailly or minister areste any man by vertue of any pleynyt or condempnacion and the said Bailly or mynister suffreth by negligence or willefully the said psone so arrestid to goo a way at large and bringeth hym not to the lordes p'sone so that the ptie pleynytffe may not have his dewe execucion the saide Bailly or minister shall stande bounde to the execucion of the pleynytffe in lyke forme as the ptie defendaunt should be.

#### Extorcion.

Item it isordeined that no maner of psone or psones of what degree or condicion he or they be of nor any officer of the lordes as Constable of the Castell Porter maist Forest<sup>†</sup> Approv<sup>r</sup> Escheto<sup>r</sup> Serjaunt Raglow or oder officer take no fees of no p'soner but suche as of right be dewe and accustummed nor take any goode or promyse of gode of any psone by constreynt compulcion manase or coharcion or in any oder wise by the wey of extorcion uppon peyn to make pleyn satisfaccion to the ptye And to forfette to the Lordes as muche as he or they have so taken or be in sewerty of by way of extorcion.

#### Confederacy.

Item it isordeined that no psone take upon hym to make any confederacie conspiracie conventicle gaderynge or assemble of people in unlawfull maner upon peyn to forfette as oft as he or they so doth xl m<sup>r</sup>c and their bodies to p'sone at the lordes wyll.

#### Maist<sup>†</sup> Forest<sup>†</sup>.

Item it is ordeyned that the Maist<sup>†</sup> Forest<sup>†</sup> shall bryng in yerly the names of evy psone that oweth to paie fyre silv and not in a groos sume uppon peyn of forfeiture of x li And yf he make omission or concelement of any name to lose for evy name so omitted and concelid a C. s.

Maist<sup>t</sup> Forest.

Item it is ordeined that the Maist<sup>t</sup> Forest<sup>t</sup> delyve no woode nor tymbre to no psones but yf they gyve trewe rekenyngē of evy tree and oder wodde in what wise they were hadde and also that it be for the lords advaile and by sufficiaunt joyn̄ warraunt undir bothe the lords seallis uppon peyn to lose to the said lordes as oft as he be defectyffe on this behalfe xxii.

D div<sup>s</sup> Officiař.

Item it is ordeyned that the Mayoř Baillies Coronōř Eschetōř Constables and oder Officers suche as hereaft<sup>r</sup> shalbe chosen made or charged at any Court w<sup>t</sup>in the said lordshipp that the names of all and evy of suche Maiōř Baillies Coronōř Eschetōř Constables and oder officers be entred in the Courte Rolles in the same Court that they or any of theym be chosen made or charged in.

## Rescyeſtes.

Item it is ordeyned that the Rescyevo<sup>r</sup> from hensforward at evy day of rescyeſte to be assigned to make pclamacion that all maner accomptauntes and Ferſirs that they appere at the Cheker and make their paiemēts evy man uppon peyn of xl s. And these peyns forfettid to be entred of recorde in the next Court folowinge of the said Baillywyke where the said payn is forfeited and that no moderacion be made w<sup>t</sup>out thassent of the Stiward and Rescyevor.

## Approvōř.

Item that the Stiward and Rescyevor chose the approvōřs and that suche approwers be sufficiaunt at theire perell And that the saide Styward and Rescyevors be charged for the nownsufficiawnce of the saide approwōřs of that belongeth to the office of the said Approwōřs and that evy Apprewo<sup>r</sup> name such officers as shalbe sufficiaunt to answer of his rescyeſtes And that the saide approwers shal answer for suche officers so chosyn be theym.

MEMORAND qđ alias scilt ad cuř tent' apud Wrixh<sup>m</sup> viij<sup>o</sup> die Octobř anno regni Regis Edward<sup>t</sup> quarti post conquestum vj<sup>to</sup> sic comptum est in hac cuř geſlaſ mandatum fuit p Senescallū Comunitati de Wrixh<sup>m</sup> qđ p̄ſent duos Ballivos ydoneos p tenent' Angl et

tenant' Wallie ad 3viend in villa de Wrixh<sup>m</sup> predca et hoe sub pena C. s. Et in hac eadm cur predca Comunitas Anglic tenant' sufficient' numlo compuer tenant' presnt' Thoma Rodon ut Balliū. Et Wallic tenant' presnt' p eis Johem ap Dd ap Jevn in Ballivu et Gr Greeth in Escaet' ibm Qui quidm Thomas Johnes et Gr exacti fuerunt ad suscipiend jurament' suu et omis Ballioz ibm Et hoc mandat' predcm sent' sub pena predca Et predcus Johnes dicit qd ipe aut consimil tenens sic ipe est in officio Balt 3vir non tenet' Unde quesitum est ab eo quid p se dicit vel dive sciat quare in officio predco 3vir non tenet' Q predcus Johnes p testand dicit qd ipe est residens apud Wrixh<sup>m</sup> et non existens in Advocac Dominoz et Subtenens Thome Rodon tenant' ad voluntat' dcoz dnoz scdm consuet' ville predce. Et p preito dicit qd ipe Johnes non tenet aliqua terr aut tenem in villa predca de dnis capit' immediat' p que ipe Johnes in officio illo 3ver debet et sic contra defenc et penam C. s. predict' optul' suu gogobergh Et predict' Wallic tenant' dicunt et affirmant qd ex quo predcus Johnes priualeg et liblitat' ville predce et predcus Johnes est subtenens et residens infra villam predcam et gaudens priualeg et consuet' ville predce put alij Wallici tenant' ville predce ante hec tempora sunt gavisi qd ipe Johnes in officio predco 3vire tenet' Et hoc po. in judico sect' cur Et predcus Johnes dic qd ex quo non tenet aliqua terr aut tenement' in villa predca de capital dnis immediat' qd ipe in officio predco 3vire non tenet' Et hoc po. in judico sect' cur Unde sect cur oflat' sunt in judico reddendo erga px. Ad quam cur sectat' cur ville predce dant p judicio qd predcus Johannes in officio Balt de Wrixh<sup>m</sup> 3vire tenant' p consuet' ville predce. Et predcus Johnes dat vad suu de xij d erga sect' cur Dic qd judiciū suu est falsum et erron Unde dat' est dies p Senescallū ad terminand judiciū predcm coram Consilio Dnoz — Quo quidm Recordo p Commissionar et Consiliar dcoz dnoz ad hanc cur eoram eis tent' inspect' et p eosdem Commissionar et Consiliar intellecto scrutat' sup hoc rotul cur de Wrixh<sup>m</sup> in quib; nt invenit' hanc matiam tangens Scrutat' eciam libro de extent' de Wrixh<sup>m</sup> renovat' tem Rege Rici sedi In quo quidm libro continent' noiatim et seriatim liberi tenentes tenant' terr escaet' tenant' reddit' increment' de terr escaet' tenant' acr tenant' reddit' increment' acr ibm Et postea continet' sic in eodm libro qd omes supdeci tenentes tam lib*l*li qm nativi quoz noia supius continent' &c. Et hent de semetipis unū Coronator

duos Ballivos et unum Escaet' qui omnia et singula ad officia predica pertinenct fideliter faciant et exequantur &c. Ped. quod constat Comissionarum et Consilium deoꝝ dnoꝝ qd̄ omnes tenentes Dñoꝝ immediat' tam residentes qm non residentes Raçone tenure sue obliuentur et eoꝝ quilit oblietur p turno suo cum p eleccōem acciderit officiū Ballioꝝ huim' excere et occupare qua de causa necnon diꝝ aliis consideracionib; Consideratur est p Commissionarum qd̄ omnes superdicti tenent' ville de Wrixh'm immediat' tam residentes qm non residentes obliata sint et teneantur et quilit eoꝝ obliata et teneat' raçone tenure sue officiū Ballioꝝ ville de Wrixh'm excere. Et qd̄ omnes tenentes residentur firmari et subtenentur ejusdem ville qui aliqua terri et tenementa de dñis immediat' non tenent' de officio Ballioꝝ predict' excendit exobliuentur. Et qd̄ judicium predictum p sect' redditum adnulletur et revocetur necnon falsum et erroneum reputetur. Et qd̄ tam sectat' p eoꝝ falso judicio qm tenentes Dñoꝝ predict' Ballivoꝝ a festi sc̄i Michis anno regni Regis Edwardi quarti vjto usq; idem festum tunc p̄ sequens in mia. Proviso semper qd̄ si tenent' immediat' de Wrixh'm tempore futuro aliquam sufficientiam de recordo p composicōem p indentur sive p aliquod factum quodcumque invenire possunt ad exobliand eos de officio predicto audiantur et dirigantur put lex et justicia exigunt et requirunt &c. Proviso etiam qd̄ inhabitantes et residentes ville de Wrixh'm tam tenentes quam non tenentes ponentur in Inquisicōib; int̄ ptem et ptem cum acciderit infra villam predictam capiend p Baht jurat' noīand et sum p discrecōem Senescall sive ejus Deputat' eligend et triand &c.

(To be continued.)

## ANTIQUITATES PAROCHIALES.

### No. VI.

A COPY OF THE CHARTER GRAUNTED BY KYNG HENRY THE 7TH, TO THE BOND MEN AND OTHER THE HABITANTS OF NORTH WALES.—(Bangor Register.)

HENRICUS, Dei gratia, rex Anglie et Francie, et dominus Hibernie; Omibus ad quos presentes literas pervernerint, salutem. Sciatis quod licet in parlamento domini Henrici, nuper regis Anglie quarti, progenitoris nostri, apud Westm. anno regni sui secundo, tanto auctoritate ejusdem parlamenti, ordinatum, inactitatum,

HENRY, by the grace of God, king of England and France, and lord of Ireland, to all to whom these present letters shall come greeting:

Know ye that although in the parliament of the lord Henry IV., late king of England, our ancestor, held at Westminster, in the second year of his reign, it was ordained,

et statutum fuerit, quod nullus Wallieus, aut homo de Wallia, aliqua terras, dominica, maneria, villas, vil-lulas, redditus, reveriones, aut servicia sive haereditamenta quæcunque infra Angliam aut in aliquibus burgis seu villis Anglicanis infra Walliam, acquirere seu obtinere deberet aut valeret, tenend. sibi et haeredibus suis in feodo simplici, feodo talliato, aut alio modo quoconque, prout in eodem statuto plenius continetur. Et licet in parlimendo dicti domini Henrici nuper regis Angliae quarti, anno regni sui quarto, apud Westm. auctoritate parliamenti sui, inter alia ordinatum et statutum fuerit, quod nullus hujusmodi Wallieus, seu homo de Wallia, aliquod officium vicecomitis, majoratus, ballivatus, constabularius, vel alterius consimilis in aliqua civitate, villa aut burgo infra Angliam, seu in aliqua villa aut burgo Anglicano infra Walliam, gereret, teneret, seu occuparet, sub certis penis in statuto praedicto expressis, et limitatis, ut in eodem statuto plenius continetur.

enacted and appointed by authority of the said parliament, that no Welshman, nor person from Wales, should be allowed or be able to acquire or obtain any lands, demesnes, manors, townships, hamlets, rents, reverions, services, or any hereditaments whatsoever in England, or in any English boroughs or townships in Wales, to hold them for himself or his heirs in fee simple, fee tail, or in any other mode whatsoever, as is more fully described in the said statute. And although in the parliament of the said lord Henry IV., late king of England, held at Westminster, in the fourth year of his reign, amongst other things it was ordained and appointed that no Welshman, nor person from Wales, of any sort should bear, hold, or occupy any office of sheriff, mayor, bailiff, constable, or the like, in any city, township, or borough in England, or in any English township or borough in Wales, under certain penalties expressed and defined in the aforesaid statute, as is more fully mentioned in the said statute.

*Terras ablatas* } Nos tamen bona  
restituit. } gratuita et laudabilia servicia quæ dilecti subditi nostri tenentes et inhabitantes infra comitatus nostros, Anglesey, Caernarvon, et Merionyth in Northwallia nobis diversimode ante hæc tempora impenderunt indiesque impendere non desistunt, intime considerantes de gratia nostra speciali ac ex certa scientia et mero motu nostro, necnon de advisamento consilii nostri, concessimus pro nobis et haeredibus nostris, quod omnes et singuli tenentes et inhabitantes infra comitatus praedictos, et eorum haereses et successores, et eorum quilibet de cetero per totos comitatus praedictos, habeant, utantur et gaudeant omnibus suis terris et tementis possessionibus et haereditamentis de quibus sesiti vel possessi-nati sunt, aut in manibus eorum existunt qualitercumque seu eorum

*Restores alienated* } We, however,  
lands. } taking into our closest consideration the gratuitous benefits and laudable services which our beloved subjects, tenants, and people within our counties of Anglesey, Caernarvon and Merioneth, in North Wales, have in divers ways conferred upon us in times past, and which they cease not daily to confer, out of our own peculiar grace and certain knowledge, and our own mere motion, as well as by the advice of our council, have granted in behalf of ourselves and our heirs, that all and singular the tenants and other inhabitants within the counties aforesaid, and their heirs, and any of their successors in time to come, throughout all the said counties, shall have, use, and enjoy all their lands and tenements, possessions and hereditaments of which they have

alicujus, tenere possint et eorum quilibet tenere possit, sibi, heredibus et assignatis suis in feodo simplici aut in feodo qualitercunque talliato ad terminum vite vel annorum, aut alio modo quoconque in perpetuum. Et de eisdem terris, tenementis, cum cæteris perjuratis, tam per chartam suam quam alteri, alienare, feoffare, dare et vendere in feodo simplici aut in feodo qualitercunque talliato ad terminum vite vel annorum, aut alio modo quoconque et cuicunque personæ, bene, quiete, et pacifice, absque aliquo fine inde nobis et hæredibus nostris solvend. pro hujusmodi terris, tenementis, et aliis præmissis, sine contradictione, impedimento, molestatione, seu gravamine quoconque, nostri vel hæredum nostrorum aut officiariorum, seu baliivorum, vel ministrorum nostrorum, aut aliorum quorumcunque, aliquibus consuetudine, re, causa, more, vel usu infra comitatus prædictos in contrarium præmissis prius habitis non obstantibus.

been seized or possessed, or which are in any way in the hands of them, or of any of them, that they, or any of them, may hold them for themselves, their heirs, and assigns in fee simple or in any fee tail, for the term of their life, or any number of years, or in any other way in perpetuity. And that they may alienate, let, give, and sell any portions of the same lands, tenements, and the other matters aforesaid, by their own deed or otherwise, in fee simple or in some fee tail, for the term of their life, or of a number of years, or in any other mode, or to any person whatsoever, honestly, quietly, and peacefully, without the payment of any fine to us and to our heirs, for lands, tenements, and other premises of this sort, without contradiction, let, molestation, or any annoyance whatsoever on our part, or that of our heirs, or officials, or bailiffs, or servants, or any of other persons whatsoever; certain usages, suits, causes, customs, or uses which prevailed before within the aforesaid counties to the contrary notwithstanding.

*Generalis libertas* } Concessimus,  
concessa est. } etiam, pro  
nobis et hæredibus nostris, quod tam  
omnes nostri nativi tenentes seu in-  
habitantes in comitatibus nostris præ-  
dictis, eorum hæredes et successores,  
quam nativi episcopo Bangoriensi et  
abbatibus quibuscumque jure debito  
astricti, generalem manumissionem et  
libertatem tenore presentium habeant  
et eis de cætero plene gaudeant et  
utantur. Et quod terras suas de  
libera tenura a modo teneant, red-  
dentes inde annuatim tam nobis quam  
præfatis episcopo Bangor. et abba-  
tibus quibuscumque redditus pre  
antea debitos et consuetos, pro omni  
exactione, servicio, et consuetudine,  
inde prius reddit. debit. et solut.  
prout nostri liberi tenentes sive inha-  
bitantes in comitatibus nostris præ-  
dictis faciunt aut facere consueverint.  
Et quod nullus tenantium, residen-

*A general freedom* } We have also  
granted. } granted in  
behalf of ourselves and our heirs  
that all our native tenants, who dwell  
in those our counties aforesaid, their  
heirs and successors, as well as the  
natives who are bound to the bishop  
of Bangor and any abbots whatsoever  
by some obligation of right, shall  
by the tenor of these presents obtain  
a general emancipation and liberty,  
and henceforth have the full benefit  
and enjoyment of the same. And  
that they shall hold their lands in  
future by a free tenure, paying an-  
nually both to us and to the fore-  
mentioned the bishop of Bangor and  
the abbots the rents which were  
usually paid in former times, in lieu  
of every exaction, service, and cus-  
tom which was previously due,  
rendered, and paid; as our free  
tenants who reside in those our

tium, sive inhabitantium in comitatis nostris praedictis, eorum heredes aut successores, nec eorum aliquis de cætero compellatur sive cogatur ad solvend., serviend., sive occupand. onus Ringildrie nec ad aliqua taxas sive trethas, tallagia sive misas, aut aliquas denariorum summas, nobis aut aliis quibuscumque debitas ratione officii Ringildrie praedict. sive aliter colligend. seu levand. quomodo arte tur, nec aliquam penam seu forisfaturam ratione non collectionis hujusmodi incurrat, sed inde exoneretur et acquietetur in perpetuum.

counties aforesaid do, or have been in the habit of doing. And that none of the tenants who dwell or reside in those our counties aforesaid, their heirs and successors, nor any of them shall in future be forced or compelled to pay, serve, or be engaged in the office or business of Ringildre,<sup>1</sup> nor pay any taxes or trethi, tallages or masses, or any sums of money, which may be due to us or anybody else, by reason of the aforesaid office of Ringildre, nor be obliged to collect or levy any, nor incur any punishment or forfeiture for neglecting to make such a collection, but that they shall be exonerated and discharged of the same forever.

*Indebitas exactiones* } Concessimus  
reprimunt. } pro nobis  
et heredibus nostris, quod nullus te-  
nentium aut inhabitantium praedictorum  
aut alicujus eorum successorum  
suorum compellatur aut cogatur ad  
solvend. aliqua relevia custumas, seu  
exactiones ibidem vocatas ebedw de-  
lebeth aut obedews delebedes; ne-  
non indebitas exactiones pro pastu  
porcorum, vocatas Takkys, aliter  
Wallice vocatas, Arian Moch; nec  
etiam alias custumas Anglice vocatas  
poleunce, Wallice, Kenniog pro pen,  
vel Arian respite. Necnon de repa-  
ratione maneriorum aliter vocatur  
Gwaith llys vel Arian gwaith llys et  
Arian pentay. Nec etiam alias cus-  
tumas, Wallice vocatas fine caer et  
dalerbyn, aut de stauro domini aliter  
vocato, stor vawr vel stor ustus et  
karyesi. Necnon de pastu stalonis  
et garcionis, aliter vocatas porthiart  
stalwyn et gwas, cum pastu lucra  
cum canibus, arian hewlid, blawd et  
butter; et de operibus molendinorum  
et pastu hennakays et gweision vy-  
chain. Necnon de omnibus et qui-

*Forbids unlawful exactions.* } We have grant-  
ed in behalf }  
of ourselves and our heirs that none  
of the tenants or residents aforesaid,  
nor any of their successors, shall  
be forced or compelled to pay any  
reliefs, customs, or exactions which  
are there called ebedui delebath, or  
obedews delebedes; also unlawful  
exactions for the pasturage of swine,  
called Takys, or as it is expressed  
in Welsh, Arian Moch; also other  
customs called in English poll-pence,  
in Welsh Ceiniog Ben, or arian  
respite. Also what relates to  
manorial repairs, otherwise called  
Gwaith Llys, or Arian gwaith llys,  
and Arian pentai. Likewise other  
customs called in Welsh Ffine caer  
and dal-erbryn, or what pertains to  
the storehouse of the lord, otherwise  
called stor vawr or stor ustus a  
carves. Also to the maintenance of  
stallion and groom, otherwise called  
Porthiant stalwyn a gwas, with forest  
pasturage, with dogs, arian heyloed,<sup>2</sup>  
blawd,<sup>3</sup> and butter, and what per-  
tains to mill works, and maintenance

<sup>1</sup> *Wallie*, Rhingyll, i.e. "In aula Præsto, in curia Apparitor, qui partes litigantes, testes, et advocatos, citabat."—Wotton.

<sup>2</sup> *Heyloed* was a customary load or burden laid upon the inferior tenants for mending or repairing the ways or hedges.—Cowell; Blount.

<sup>3</sup> *Blawd*, flour.

buscunque denariorum summis pro hujusmodi custumis præ antea exactis seu exigendis cogatur aliter aut alio modo quam Burgenses villa de Beaumaris vel Anglicanae villæ infra principalitates nostras Northwalliae commorantes dant et solvunt, et dare et solvere coartantur; sed quod omnes custumæ et exactiones illæ penitus deleanter et determinentur, nec aliquatenus in posterum usitentur; nec non omnes alias custumæ seu indebitæ exactiones quas prædicti tenentes et inhabitantes per totos comitatus prædictos ante confectionem præsentium solvere consueverunt etiam penitus deleanter et determinentur, nec aliqua denariorum summa de eisdem custumis prædictis, seu earum aliqua infra comitatus predictos aut eorum aliquem qualitercumque solvatur, levetur seu levabilis existat; sed tenentes et inhabitantes prædicti, et eorum heredes et successores et eorum quilibet de cetero, sint et sit de premissis quieti et quietus in perpetuum. Et quod vicecomes comitatus de Anglesey custodiat seu custodiri faciat omnes comitatus suos in villa de Newburgh, et non alibi de mense in mensem et anno in annum futuris temporibus perpetuo teneatur.

Concessimus pro nobis et hæreditibus nostris, quod tam tenentes et inhabitantes prædicti, quam alia extranea personæ cujuscunque conditionis fuerint, veniendo in comitatibus prædictis pro aliquibus bonis rebus aut catallis emptis vel venditis aut evenendis seu vendendis infra comitatus predictos, ac ab iisdem comitatibus redeundo, et eorum heredes et successores sui sint quieti et exonerati, et eorum quilibet sit quietus et exoneratus de theolonio, sive tolneto, stallagio, passagio, et custuma per

of pennakays and gweision bychain. Also with respect to all sums of money whatsoever exacted, or intended to be exacted formerly for customs of this sort, that nobody be compelled to pay them otherwise than the burgesses of the town of Beaumarais, or of an English town within our dominions of North Wales give and pay, and are obliged to give and pay; but that those customs and exactions shall be entirely abolished and made to cease, and shall by no means prevail again in future. Also that all those customs or unlawful exactions, which the aforesaid tenants and residents throughout all the counties aforesaid were wont to pay before the enactment of these presents, shall likewise be entirely abolished and made to cease; and that no sum of money in respect to the customs aforesaid, or in respect to any one of them within the counties aforesaid, or any one of them whatsoever, be paid, levied, or be liable to be levied; but that the tenants and inhabitants aforesaid, their heirs and successors, and any of them, shall henceforth for ever be exempted from the aforesaid burthens. And that the sheriff of the county of Anglesey shall hold, or cause to be holden, all his courts in the town of Newborough, and that he in future be perpetually bound to do so there and nowhere else, from month to month and from year to year.

We have granted in behalf of ourselves and our heirs that the tenants and inhabitants aforesaid, as well as strangers of whatever condition they may be, their heirs and successors, or any of them, on coming into the counties aforesaid, or in returning out of them, shall, in respect of certain goods, merchandize, or chattels, bought or sold, or about to be sold or traded in, within the counties aforesaid, be freed and exempted from toll, or tolnet, stallage, passage, or custom, throughout all

totos comitatus praedictos tam infra villam de Beaumareys vel Anglicanas villas infra, Principalitates nostræ Northwalliae commorantes, quam extra. Et quod praedicti tenentes et inhabitantes, et aliae extraneæ personæ praedictæ non compellantur neque cogantur nec eorum aliquis compellatur sive cogatur per nos, hæredes, theolonarios, ballivos, firmarios, ministros aut aliquos officiarios nostros ibidem, ad solvenda aliqua tolneta, stallagia, passagia, seu costumas infra comitatus et loca predicta, pro aliquibus bonis rebus aut catallis emptis seu venditis aut emendis seu vendendis, sed de premissis de cetero per totos comitatus praedictos sint quieti et exonerati, et eorum quilibet sit quietus et exoneratus in perpetuum.

Concessimus etiam pro nobis et hæredibus nostris, quod si quis tenens vel inhabitans praedictorum hæredum aut successorum suorum intestatus obierit, escaetor aut aliquis alias officiarius noster ibidem nomine nostro vel hæredum nostrorum, seu de bonis, catallis, et debitis hujusmodi decedentis, nullatenus intromittat, sed totaliter decedentis bonorum dispositio, loci ordinario cedeat et revertetur ad usum hæredum et propinquorum consanguineorum seu amicorum talis decedentis.

Concessimus etiam pro nobis et hæredibus nostris quod si quis tenentium seu inhabitantium praedictorum sit manucaptus sive in posterum manuciapiendus de seu pro bona gestura sive de pace servanda, ad sectam nostram seu ad sectam alterius cuiuscunque personæ quod talis manucaptus seu manuciapiendus non compellatur seu cogatur ad comparand. coram justiciario nostro Northwalliae ad sessiones ibidem tentas in comitatibus nostris praedictis Northwalliae de cetero nisi semel in anno, hoc est, in sessione proxima et immediata post festum sancti Michaelis archangeli.

the counties aforesaid, not only in the town of Beaumarais, and the English towns within our principality of North Wales, but also out of them. And that the aforesaid tenants and inhabitants, and the strangers aforesaid, or any one of them, be not forced or compelled by us, our heirs, toll-men, bailiffs, farmers, servants, or other local officers, to pay any tolnet, stallage, passage, or custom within the counties and places aforesaid, for any goods, merchandize, or chattels bought or sold, or about to be bought or sold, but shall in future be freed from the above and exempted therefrom, throughout all the counties aforesaid, for ever.

We have moreover granted in behalf of ourselves and our heirs, that if any tenant or resident shall die without having made a will in favour of his heirs or successors aforesaid, our local escheator, or other of our officers, shall not in our name, nor in that of our heirs, take possession of any of the goods, chattels, and such like which belonged to the deceased, but the entire disposal of the deceased's property shall, by authority of the ordinary of the place, fall and revert to the use of the heirs and relatives, kinsmen, or friends of the said deceased.

We have also granted in behalf of ourselves and our heirs, that if any one of the tenants or inhabitants aforesaid has been apprehended, or shall be hereafter apprehended, at our suit, or at the suit of any other person, touching his good behaviour, or with a view to keep the peace, he shall not be compelled nor obliged to appear before our justice of North Wales at the sessions held in our aforesaid counties of North Wales in future, except once a year, namely, at the first sessions immediately after the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel. And if the principal person or

*Et si principales manucapti sive principalis manucaptus in sessionibus nostris coram justiciario nostro personaliter compareant sive compareat, quod tunc privilegii manucaptoris sive fidejussoris pro hujusmodi manucaptis sive manucapto, nullum dampnum forisfactorum incurrit sive incurrat, sed in dampnis penitus existant sive existat de aliqua forisfactura. Et quod tenentes et inhabitantes praedicti a modo onerentur seu compellantur per praefatum justiciarium seu pronotarium sive pronotarios, aut per aliquos clericos curie ibidem ad solvend. aliqua sive ulteriora feed. quam duos denarios pro feed. de capite cuiuslibet eorum. Et in casu quo quis eorum tenentium et inhabitantium praedictorum per inquisitionem vel informationem accusatus fuerit de aliqua feloniam seu forisfactura pacis paratus respondere velit per debitam legis formam; et quod pronotarius seu pronotarii ac alii clerici seu officia-rii curie ibidem sint contenti cum duobus solidis pro feed. et recordis suis; et quod nullus eorum cogatur amplius solvere in seu pro acquitancia sua de premissis, sed penitus delean- tur in perpetuum.*

*Concessimus etiam pro nobis et haeredibus nostris, quod liberi tenentes seu inhabitantes in comitatibus nostris praedictis habiles sint ad inquirandum, et quod inquirant sive inquirent faciant in omnibus casibus quibuscumque concernantibus Anglicas personas prout Anglicæ personæ praefatae inquirant seu inquirent faciant concernantibus Wallicas personas. Et quod hujusmodi inquisitiones sic capte et presentate, per praefatos tenentes sive inhabitantes nostros Wallicos quosecumque allocentur et in vigore existant et habeantur; et quod nullum impedimentum praefatis tenentibus nostris Wallicis in premissis de cætero obstet seu obstare debeat aut valeat. Et quod nullus ballivus itinerans infra comitatus predictos seu eorum aliquis aliqua sive alia feoda pro executione officiorum suorum*

persons apprehended shall appear personally before our justice at our sessions, that they shall then incur no forfeiture of privilege in reference to the prosecutor or him who may be bail for the defendant or defendants, but shall stand wholly indemnified with respect to any forfeiture. And that the tenants and inhabitants aforesaid shall in future be charged or compelled by the said justice, or by the Prothonotary or Prothonotaries, or by some of the clerks of the court, to pay only certain fees, at the rate of twopence a head and upwards. And in a case where any one of the tenants and inhabitants aforesaid shall have been accused of felony by inquiry or information, or shall be ready and willing to defend himself on the charge of a violation of the peace according to due form of law, that the Prothonotary or Prothonotaries, and other clerks and officers of the court, shall be satisfied with two shillings as their fees and remuneration, and that none of them shall be obliged to pay more on or for his discharge, according to the premises, but that such fees shall be for ever entirely abolished.

We have also granted in behalf of ourselves and our heirs, that the free tenants or inhabitants in our counties aforesaid, shall have the freedom to inquire, and that they shall inquire or cause an inquiry to be made, in all cases whatsoever which concern Englishmen, even as the said Englishmen inquire or cause an inquiry to be made in what cases concern Welshmen. And that inquiries of this sort, thus made and presented by the aforesaid our Welsh tenants or subjects whatsoever, be allowed, and that they continue in full force; and that no impediment in the premises shall hereafter oppose, or that it ought to oppose, or shall prevail against our Welsh tenants aforesaid. And that no bailiff on his journey within the counties aforesaid, or any one of

quam in scaccario nostro ibidem pro huiusmodi ballivis allocantur, accipere debet aliqua consuetudine sive indebita exactione pro eisdem p̄e anteā exactis seu usitatis in aliquo non obstante. Et hoc absque aliquo fine seu feodo ad opus nostrum solvend. seu capiend. In cuius rei testimonium has literas nostras fieri fecimus patentes. Teste me ipso apud Westm. tertio die Martii, anno regni nostri vicesimo secundo.

Per ipsum Regem, et de data p̄ae-dicta, auctoritate Parlamenti.

them, shall take or receive any other fees for the discharge of his duties than are allowed in our court of exchequer there for bailiffs of this description, any customs or undue exactions in lieu of former exactions and usages in certain cases notwithstanding. And that this shall be done without paying or receiving any fine or fee for ourselves. In testimony whereof we have issued these our letters patent. Witness myself at Westminster, the third day of March, in the twenty-second year of our reign.

By the King himself, and under the authority of Parliament of the above mentioned date.

## THE COUNCILS AND PARLIAMENTS OF SHREWSBURY.

### SECTION II.

It has already been mentioned that the question of homage perpetually involved the Welsh princes in disputes with the English crown, and it evidently appears that this imposition was never complied with until every expedient had been adopted for avoiding it. At an earlier period there might, indeed, have been some doubt as to the exact nature of this claim; it is not very clear how far it might have been virtually recognised, but when King John ascended the throne, the intestine divisions of the Welsh had so weakened them, that, unable any longer to struggle effectually against their neighbours, they formally submitted to a domination which they had in reality no power to resist. Llewelyn ap Iorwerth was about to espouse Joanna, the natural daughter of the English monarch, and this alliance afforded a good opportunity for placing the peace of the two kingdoms upon a secure foundation. Before this marriage the Welsh prince entered into a formal treaty with her father, (1201,) in the presence of the Bishops of Bangor and St. Asaph, the High Justiciary, and several of the chief nobility, when he swore perpetual fealty in the most ample manner. On other

occasions there might have been some reservation, but on this the feudal homage was complete, the form was fully expressive of vassalage, and, as far as it was possible for a public instrument to effect such an object, the dependance of the Welsh crown was unconditionally acknowledged.

On reading the clauses of this treaty,<sup>1</sup> we find them couched in a spirit of international wisdom, apparently very equitable, and the regulations laid down for the trial of disputes of any border conflicts that might arise, are seen standing in singular relief to the general usages of an age characterized, in other respects, by numerous acts of injustice and barbarism. A charter, issued in the preceding year in favour of the Jews, may be alluded to here, as remarkably analogous to it in these respects, though Llewelyn obtained by homage, what this persecuted race had to procure at the cost of four thousand marks.<sup>2</sup> This may seem like a large sum for purchasing so uncertain a possession as the royal favour, but it was a thousand marks less than Walter de Gray payed to the same monarch for the chancellorship a very few years afterwards. In looking at the result, we find the comparison strictly maintainable, since the fidelity of the Welsh prince and John's conciliatory conduct towards the Jews, were both equally transient.

It is highly probable that this union betwixt Llewelyn and Joanna had for a time the effect of softening the animosities which disturbed the repose of both countries. John treated his son-in-law with great affection, and settled upon Joanna, as her dowry, the manor of Ellesmere,<sup>3</sup> in Shrop-

<sup>1</sup> Rymer, vol. i. p. 84.

<sup>2</sup> See the Charter 2nd John, i. 49, as printed in the admirable History of the Jews in England, by John Elijah Blunt, Esq., p. 132.

<sup>3</sup> At the time of the general survey, Ellesmere was held by Earl Roger, and subsequently under the crown by David, the son of Owen, who married Emma, sister of Henry II. Llewelyn had full seisin of the manor in the 6th of John, (Rot. Lit. Claus. 23,) and of the castle in the same year, (Rot. Lit. Pat. 51.) It appears, from the patent rolls of the 10th year of this reign, that Bartholomew Turot was governor of the castle at that time, and ordered to give it up to the custody of the Earl of Salisbury, the king's natural brother, and to Thomas de Erdington. So that the king reserved the disposal of the government of the castle, Ellesmere being a frontier town and of importance to the marches, and gave merely the rents and profits to his son-in-law, (Rot. Lit. Pat. 88;) and in proof of this, we find amongst the entries on the Roll of the Great Pipe 13th of Hen. III., that Llewelyn made a payment of ten pounds a-year for his land in Ellesmere. (See the Grant, Rot. Chart. 147.)

shire ; she also held lands in Condover, in the same county ;<sup>1</sup> even his chaplain, Ostricius, was provided for at the royal charge until the king could find him a suitable benefice.<sup>2</sup> Soon after these events, Gwenwynwyn, chief of Powys, was summoned to attend a council at Shrewsbury, (Oct. 1202,) and Llewelyn seized the opportunity afforded by his absence to invade his possessions. Under ordinary circumstances there would have been nothing remarkable in such a proceeding, but it gave rise, on the present occasion, to an unhappy estrangement of the English monarch's regard for his son-in-law. We know not indeed what constituted the offence of the Prince of Powys-land, but in the convention held at Shrewsbury on the vigil of St. Denis, (May 24, 1208,) he was compelled to swear fidelity to the English king, and covenanted to give him immediately twenty hostages for the full observance of the treaty, and if he did not procure more than twelve of the number in the course of the eight following days, he consented to remain as a forfeited captive, in the monarch's power, till the remainder were placed at his disposal ; whilst, on the other hand, John undertook to preserve his territories free from inroads and damage during the interval. Whilst engaged in this stipulation, John had not calculated on the ambitious views of his son-in-law, who, with the natural disposition of his countrymen, had long cast a wistful eye over the more fertile possessions to the south of the Berwyn, nor had he believed his disposition was incapable of being wrought upon by the favours he had already experienced. It might, indeed, be stated in vindication of Llewelyn's aggressions, that he conceived he had an indefeasible right to the allegiance of the Prince of Powys-land ; whatever claim, however, he might set up in this respect, it was always indignantly resisted.

Taking advantage, then, of these circumstances on the Borders, and the confused state of affairs in England, Llewelyn vigorously invaded the neighbouring territory, and carried his arms into the southern Principality. It was for

<sup>1</sup> She held lands in Cunedure de Balio Regis to the amount of £12 13s. a-year. (Rot. Magn. Pip. 13th Hen. III. See the writ for this assignment Rot. Lit. Claus. 12, 6th of John.)

<sup>2</sup> The king allowed Ostricius five pounds a-year until he could provide for him, which he afterwards did by procuring him a prebend in Ellesmere. (Rot. Lit. Claus. 5, 43, 60.)

a short time only that he could pursue his course of devastation, for meeting with a timely check from the army of the English king, he yielded himself up to the monarch's clemency, and received a gracious pardon by the hands of Ostricius, his chaplain, whom he had dispatched to Bristol (Dec. 26, 1208,) for the purpose of obtaining it.<sup>1</sup> This was not, however, the first occasion on which the Welsh Prince had to entrust himself to the tender consideration of John; as in the second year of this reign, the monarch addressed a writ ordering Llewelyn to meet Hubert, Archbishop of Canterbury, and Geoffrey Fitz Piers, son of the Earl of Essex, at Shrewsbury, to speak together on the subjects then in dispute. He had previously invited him to a conference at Westminster and granted him, according to the usual custom, a safe conduct for himself and followers, but it does not appear that Llewelyn thought proper to comply with the king's wishes.<sup>2</sup>

It might naturally be supposed that the late advances of the English monarch would have served, in some degree, to soften the impetuosity and check the ambition of the Welsh Prince; but, in point of moral feeling, these two leaders stood on an equality, and whilst the one, forgetful of his sworn fidelity and of the recent forgiveness he had experienced, was again carrying desolation through Powys-land, the other, in a spirit of revenge for his inability to punish his enemies by the open chances of war, savagely put all the hostages to death who were confided to his charge. This act of atrocity must have struck all the noble families in both countries with terror, and taught them the necessity of vigorously uniting themselves together for self-protection.

All at once Welsh discords were forgotten, and the three chieftains, who had recently been at war with each other, now only thought of the most effective measures to ward off the invasion of the English king. A pretext was afforded them in the cruel execution of Rhys ap Maelgwn, a Welsh noble only seventeen, who had been executed, in obedience to the royal commands, by the constable of Shrewsbury Castle.<sup>3</sup> Such an act of barbarity was sufficient excuse for Llewelyn marching with his troops towards this ancient town, where he gained admittance (A.D. 1215) without much

<sup>1</sup> Rymer, vol. i. p. 102.

<sup>2</sup> Rot. Chart. 103, 104.

<sup>3</sup> Price, p. 232.

resistance; and resumed the ancient sovereignty of Pengwern after it had been lost to his ancestors for upwards of four centuries.

A possession obtained with so little difficulty was as speedily lost. The unquiet spirit of Llewelyn led him to make new conquests in South Wales, and during his career of victory in that quarter, he received intelligence that Gwenwynwyn, Prince of Powis-land, had forsaken his cause and again placed himself under the protection of the English monarch. The unwelcome news struck very deeply in Llewelyn's mind, because the Prince had great power and influence throughout the country, and was moreover capable of furnishing powerful resistance to the incursions of his enemies upon the marches. It was in vain that he sent Bishops and Abbots to remonstrate with him upon this defection, that he reminded him of his oath of allegiance so lately taken, or that he bade him read his written promises of faithful adherence to his own cause.<sup>1</sup> He had therefore no alternative left him but to chastise a vassal who was both undeserving and insensible of more lenient treatment. It is interesting to trace the movements of the belligerent parties at this period; to follow Llewelyn as he hastily traverses the southern principality, and observe him disposing as he thought fit of its castles, cantrefs, and commots to his supporters, pursuing, in fact, a career of uninterrupted prosperity until he became acquainted with Gwenwynwyn's abandonment of his engagements. The English king's attention meanwhile was urgently called both to these outbreaks, and the more formidable insurrection of his own Barons; excommunicated by Innocent the third, menaced by Lewis the Dauphin of France, and assailed by his most powerful subjects, he knew not whither to turn for tranquillity. He now sought in turn the friendship of the Welsh, who with that tone of independence, which had always characterised them as a people, refused to support the treacherous intentions of a tyrant. In revenge for their firm resistance to his wishes, he immediately destroyed the castles of Hay and Radnor; as Clun belonged to the Fitz-Alans, it probably shared no better a fate, whilst Oswestry was burnt to the ground.

John passed rapidly forwards to Shrewsbury, where he tarried four days, thence to the castle of Bridgenorth, and

<sup>1</sup> Price, pp. 241, &c.

so on to the West of England. In less than two months after these events, death gave that repose to his spirit which his own line of conduct would never have procured him, and for a brief interval there was peace established between the two kingdoms.

At the time Henry III. ascended the throne, it can, however, scarcely be said that contentment generally existed amongst his subjects. The Barons had suffered so many years of thraldom under his father, that they could scarcely venture to entrust at once the sacred charge of their liberties to the keeping of so untried and youthful a personage as the new monarch, and they soon expressed this sense of their distrust by calling upon his advisers, since he was of too tender years to exercise any legal acts in his own person, to ratify the great charter so recently obtained from his predecessor. He had not in fact been more than two weeks in possession of the crown, before his subjects demanded the establishment of the rights they had been so long and vigorously contending for; nor did they consider it sufficient guarantee for their perpetual security to receive at this earliest moment their simple confirmation, since they repeated their demands the following year, when a few additional clauses, probably to make amends for the omission of some expunged, were incorporated in the statute.

If the English looked with such suspicion on their sovereign, bound to him as they were by so many ties of national dependance, of fealty, or of feudal tenure, can it then be presumed that the Welsh, who virtually owed none of this allegiance to the Saxon suzerain, and who were not vassals to the race of Plantagenets, would tamely acquiesce in the mandates of their commissioners without uttering a murmur or expostulation. It is truly most unreasonable to regard them during the long reign we are entering upon as being in a state of rebellion. They were not, in the first place, looked upon in the same light as their neighbours; they already possessed an inheritable throne, and a native monarch who had the first claim upon their obedience. Whatever respect therefore was manifested to Henry in his nonage, must have been the spontaneous effusion of their native kindliness and generosity, a feeling akin to that which still greets the English wanderer amid their romantic land. When we consider the line of policy adopted by his own people,

both during this and later periods of his reign, it will be seen that Henry could adduce no paramount claim for such a display of their affection. There is certainly no ground for expecting that to defection from Llewelyn the Welsh should also have added greater attachment to their oppressors than Henry's own people evinced. The transactions of the period will, however, best be understood by examining the official records which have been preserved, though it may be not unadvisable to bear in mind, that as all these documents embody the statements of one side only, there is a possibility of their being imbued with the colouring imparted to them by those who were interested actors.

The English Barons, during the two first years of Henry's reign, had been sedulously cultivating the friendship of Llewelyn, and up to this point the aspect of affairs in the North was prosperous. But as soon as their confederacy with the French King was broken through and himself defeated, it became the interest of Henry's advisers to weaken the growing power of Wales. William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke, was naturally anxious to urge forward a measure of this nature, as he had suffered from Llewelyn's incursions in the south. Gallo, the Papal Legate, who had recently conveyed to the Welsh Prince the sentence of excommunication, and those of the nobility who were appointed to manage the business of the state during the minority, accordingly summoned him to appear at Worcester (12th Feb. 1218) and render homage. That nothing might seem outwardly deficient in respect, an honourable escort was ordered to attend him hither, and the same prelates and nobles subsequently witnessed his extorted confessions. There is to those who, after this lapse of time, can dispassionately scrutinize the hidden motives of the agents who performed a part in the scene that was acted, something truly repulsive and pitiable in the conduct of men, who having once secured the person of the royal Prince, should take perfidious advantage of his restraint to effect his humiliation.<sup>1</sup> The provisions of Magna Charta, which decreed so justly how all causes of dispute should be settled, were thus soon forgotten; a circumstance not much, indeed, calculated to excite surprise, when we find the clause itself omitted<sup>2</sup> in Henry's very first con-

<sup>1</sup> *Fæderæ.* vol. i. p. 150.

<sup>2</sup> These very important clauses do not exist at all in the charter granted in

firmation. On the present occasion the Welsh monarch surrendered Caermarthen and Cardigan Castles, as well as bound himself by oath not to harbour the king's enemies. By way of striking a balance and somewhat softening matters, the council permitted him to hold the custody of Gwenwynwyn's lands in North Wales and Montgomeryshire, of which the prince of Powys-land had been despoiled by John, Llewelyn contracting during the prince's minority to furnish reasonable subsistence for the children, whether they were brought up in England or Wales, as well as covenanting to pay the dowry of Margaret, the widow. Another document in the Clause Rolls issued by himself, sets forth that he agreed to hold the aforementioned castles, with all their appurtenances, until Henry himself came of age; to keep them in repair at his own cost, and to defend them against the King's enemies, receiving power in the meanwhile to appoint officers over each, and to exercise the government over their appropriated jurisdiction. He also consented that the King's bailiff should hold his court in these respective castles and territories for England according to the law of England, and for Welshmen by that of Wales; giving up as hostages for the due observance of these articles Malegwn, the son of Rhys; Rhys, the son of Griffith; Madoc, the son of Griffith; and Marenduc, the son of Robert.<sup>1</sup>

There was also confirmed to Joanna, by a writ addressed

the first year of his reign in the Durham Manuscript, which has been hitherto adopted as the one of greatest authority, but are supplied in the printed copies from an entry transcript in the Red Book of the exchequer at Dublin. In the charter of the second year of Henry's reign they are altogether wanting. The reader will hardly forget, as he passes over the events which will be noticed in the ensuing narrative, that the following clauses were in the provisions granted at Runemede, but erased on the first opportunity after John's death. That this fact should now be noticed for the first time, as it is presumed, is one among many proofs to shew how partially the history of the fall of Welsh liberty has hitherto been considered. The words are these:—

“Si Rex Walenses dissaisierit vel elongaverit de terris vel libertatibus vel de rebus aliis in Anglia vel in Wallia, eis statim sine placito reddantur, et si fuerint dissaisiti vel elongati de tenementis suis Angliae per patrem vel fratrem Regis sine judicio parium suorum, Rex eis sine dilatione justitiam exhibebit eo modo quo exhibet Anglicis justitiam de tenementis suis Angliae, secundum legem Angliae, et de tenementis Walliae secundum legem Walliae, et de tenementis Marchie, secundum legem Marchie. Idem faciant Walenses Regi et suis.”

<sup>1</sup> Rot. Claus. 226, 417, 419.

to the sheriff of Warwickshire, the manor of Budiford (Bidford) in that county, which had been granted to her by John as part of her marriage portion.<sup>1</sup> Subsequently leave was given to hold a market there on Tuesdays, provided it did not interfere with those in the neighbourhood.

It is very easy to perceive that the small favours which were now shewn to Llewelyn were in themselves not only of a temporary duration, but were coupled with so many guards and restrictions, that they were in truth scarcely any favours at all ; they were rather the means of secretly destroying his personal freedom, and of gradually entangling him in the meshes of an artful policy, from which it would be impossible to extricate himself.

We have no means of ascertaining what was the real state of feeling existing between the two countries during the interval of this arrangement and Henry's visit to Shrewsbury. On the 1st of May, however, he addressed a letter, from Campden, in Gloucestershire, to Llewelyn, informing him he was on the road to meet him ; that Fulke de Breaute would give him safe conduct to Shrewsbury, where he wished, in conjunction with the legate, the archbishop of Canterbury, the bishop of Winchester, and Hubert de Burgh, to hold a Colloquium with him on the Monday after the Ascension.<sup>2</sup> The uneasiness Llewelyn felt at the unnatural conduct of his eldest son Griffith, might have been an inducement on his part for complying with this invitation. But besides the prudence of coming to some explanation with the English council, for those outrages committed by Griffith in keeping possession of the cantref of Merioneth, in defiance of his father's threatening, there were differences which required settling betwixt himself and the Earl of Pembroke. An arrangement indeed respecting these complicated disputes was attempted, but very badly conceived, since all that was affected was to proclaim a truce that should continue until the feast of St. Michael following, which was leaving the real question at issue as unsettled as before. It is not, therefore, to be wondered at that in less than a week after the expiration, the influence of William Marshall should so far prevail as to give an unfavourable colouring to the

<sup>1</sup> Rot. Claus. 378, 379.

<sup>2</sup> *Fœderæ*, vol. i. p. 159.

deeds of Llewelyn in South Wales, and bring him into fresh difficulties.<sup>1</sup>

One permanent effect, however, of this Colloquium was to place David, the second son, under the English king's guardianship, a protection afforded him to the disparagement of his brother, both in consequence of his being the legitimate son of the English king's sister, and because he was likely to be a less dangerous enemy to fill the Welsh throne.<sup>2</sup> Henry remained at Shrewsbury until the 8th of May, 1220, and left the county by way of Bridgenorth, for Westminster.

CHARLES HENRY HARTSHORNE.

(*To be continued.*)

### TOPOGRAPHICAL POETRY.

[THE following lines, though scarcely lying within the scope of an archaeological work, we give insertion to, inasmuch as they are unpublished ; and, coming from a personage of note of the last century, are worthy of remembrance.]

From Dr. Moore at Golden Grove, in Caermarthenshire, to his son F. Moore in London.—1790.

The fervour of a father's love  
Greets thee, dear Frank, from Golden Grove,  
Where open handed Bounty reigns,  
And spreads his blessings o'er the plains ;  
Where his full flock the shepherd leads,  
O'er pastures rich, and flowing meads ;  
Or, crossing Towy's crystal rill,  
Ascends the slope of Grongar Hill,  
And sees beneath his roving eye  
A thousand rural beauties lie ;  
Wood, village, garden, hill and dale,  
And river winding thro' the vale,  
And milk-white cottages<sup>3</sup> so clean,  
Sweet contrast to the groves so green ;

<sup>1</sup> See the different grievances alleged on the part of the Earl of Pembroke in Rymer's *Fædera*, vol. i. p. 164, from the Close Rolls, 4 Hen. III.

<sup>2</sup> *Fædera*, vol. i. p. 159.

<sup>3</sup> The Peasants' houses, in this part of Wales, are all remarkably white and clean.

The cliff which overhangs the flood,  
 The castle rising thro' the wood,  
 Erewhile the seat of feudal lord,  
 And bard his battles to record.

And lo ! her bow,<sup>1</sup> now while I write,  
 Bright Iris bends before my sight,  
 One end she leans on Dryslon's tow'rs,  
 The other dips in Newton's bow'rs,  
 And comprehends in their embrace,  
 The various beauties of the place,  
 Lending a frame of every hue,  
 To this — the most enchanting view, }  
 That Nature's pencil ever drew.— }  
 But here, mayhap, that frigid dame  
 Whose touch can damp the poet's flame,  
 Who ev'ry narrative assails  
 With odious compasses and scales,  
 Who can the trav'ler's pen benumb,  
 And strike the story-teller dumb ;  
 Whose wavering faith, in ev'ry age,  
 Has filled the zealot's breast with rage,  
 Who heard unmov'd the sibyl's strain,  
 And pontiff's claim with cold disdain,  
 And, pausing o'er the sacred line,  
 Still frets the orthodox divine ;  
 Pale *Doubt* is this old beldame's name,  
 Who thus can prompt you to exclaim,—  
 “My father deals in fairy tales ;  
 “There's no such golden groves in Wales.”  
 Come, then, O thou of little faith,  
 And own, description falls beneath  
 The real beauties, which prevail  
 Round Golden Grove in Towy Vale :  
 And when you're told these fields can claim  
 The honour of Carmarthen's name,<sup>2</sup>  
 Your glowing breast will at the sound  
 With many a grateful thought rebound,  
 And make you view with partial eye  
 The meanest object you descry.

<sup>1</sup> I was writing the preceding lines, at a window, at Golden Grove, when a rainbow formed, and gave rise to these nine lines.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. F. Moore was in the office of Lord Carmarthen, now Duke of Leeds.

ON CERTAIN PECULIARITIES OBSERVABLE IN  
SOME OF THE EARLY MONUMENTAL  
EFFIGIES IN WALES.



Effigy of Bishop William de Brewsa.

THE desire to perpetuate the resemblance, after death, of persons who have been honoured or beloved during life, is so natural and widely spread a feeling, that it is not surprising that we should find attempts made to effect this purpose

Dr. Moore, the author of the above poem, was father of Sir John Moore, who was killed on the retreat of the English from Corunna; and the doctor, a physician, was also the author of "Zeluco." Golden Grove is in the vale of Towy, in the county of Caermarthen, and is the property of Earl of Cawdor; near it may be seen "Taylor's Walk," so called from having been frequented by Dr. Jeremy Taylor, when in misfortune, and who received much sympathy and protection at this place; and his name is still held in great veneration in the neighbourhood. Golden Grove was also visited by Cromwell, in his way to attack Pembroke Castle. Drylswyn Castle is situated on an eminence in the vale, the siege of which proved fatal to Lord Stafford, and others, who were buried in its ruins. Newton is the seat of Lord Dynevyr, and the old castle and hanging woods, alluded to by Moore, present a magnificent view from Golden Grove. Grongar Hill was celebrated by Dyer, in his beautiful poem, and is in front of Golden Grove.

from the earliest period of civilized existence. The prevalence of hero-worship, the practice of image-worship of various kinds, the custom of impressing coins and seals with the portraits of the sovereign princes by whom they were used or issued, are all varied instances originating in this feeling.

Portraiture, in its widest extent, (exclusive, however, of graphic art,) divides itself into two branches; pictorial and sculptural. With the former, beyond noticing (in order to prove the early practice of portrait painting) the statement of Cicero in his treatise entitled *Atticus*, that Varro had introduced into his works not only the names but also the effigies of more than seven hundred illustrious personages, our attention will be confined, in the present article, to sculptured effigies, which may be conveniently divided into,

- 1st, those made during, or with more particular reference to, the life of the person represented; and
- 2nd, those made subsequently, or with reference, to his decease.

This division of the subject seems dependent, in a great degree, upon the mode of sepulture adopted in various nations. The Greeks and Romans, for instance, did not erect monumental effigies, similar to those of the Middle Ages in a recumbent position, because their dead were not generally buried entire;<sup>1</sup> on the contrary, their heroes are represented in the most glorious attitudes of living existence. In the greater part of the tombs collected in the Museum of the Vatican, battles and games are executed in bas relief: "The memory of the activity of life was the best homage which they could pay the dead."—Mad. de Stael's *Corinne*, vol. viii. c. 2.

The Egyptians, on the other hand, who embalmed their dead entire, represented the deceased, as nearly as possible, in the singular mummy-cases of which there are so many

<sup>1</sup> The distinction between the *Sepulchra*, in which the corpses were laid entire, and the *Hypogaea* or *Mausolea*, in which the cinerary urns were deposited, must be borne in mind. The practice of burning the body, from its prevalence, would indispose the mind to the erection of sculptures representing the deceased lying on his tomb; in fact, in the instructions which Trimalchio gives for the sculptures of his own tomb, which have come down to us, we find him desiring to be represented seated in the ship whereby he obtained his great wealth, pouring out his riches to the multitude.—Petronius, vol. i. p. 326.

fine examples in the British Museum. These effigies are not always representations of a mummified corpse; hence the same establishment contains a remarkable full length Egyptian monumental effigy in black marble, in which the deceased is sculptured lying at full length, clad in a long loose robe, with the hands lying upon the breast, and the feet naked. The head is unfortunately wanting in this specimen, which is intermediate between an incised slab and a full sculptured effigy. In the same establishment there are also some remarkable Etruscan monumental effigies, in which full length and fully draped figures are represented half recumbent, as on a couch, apparently similar to one represented in Piranesi's *Vasi e Candelabri*, of an oblong form, with the figures of a man and woman half recumbent, as on a seat in a triclinium, surrounded by a border or battlement; on the sides of the tomb, in compartments, are figured the labours of Hercules. We have in these monuments the earliest instances of what in after ages have been termed altar-tombs.<sup>1</sup>

In our own country the Romans, of course, introduced their own classical mode of burial; the body being consumed on the pile, the ashes carefully collected, and enclosed in a linen sheet, secured by a brass pin, and deposited in an urn.

Esculptured effigies of Roman soldiers and others have been met with in different parts of the kingdom, of which the only instance which has, I believe, occurred in Wales is the Maiden stone, as it is called, near Brecon.<sup>2</sup> This monument is the more interesting from its being evidently the type of the very curious British tombstone in the nearly adjacent village church-yard of Llandevelog. The figures hitherto published of the latter stone are quite wretched; I have carefully drawn both it and the Maiden stone.

<sup>1</sup> Winckelman quotes D'Harcanville for an engraving of an extraordinary tomb found in the middle of the Tiphantine Mountains by Sir William Hamilton, in which the skeleton of the deceased was extended upon the ground. Wooden monumental figures, as well as figures in stone carved in low relief, in a half recumbent position, were, however, occasionally sculptured both by the Greeks and Romans, (Gough, Introd. vol. ii. p. 98,) evidently borrowed from the Etruscan monuments alluded to above.

<sup>2</sup> The figure of this monument given in Jones's *Brecknockshire* is very correct. See for other instances figures 136 and 160 in Knight's *Old England*, a work which I refer to from being easy of access to less antiquarian readers.

During the Anglo-Saxon period the custom of burning the dead seems to have soon declined, the dead body being buried entire, as represented in many Anglo-Saxon illuminations; it is singular, however, that throughout the long period which intervened between the departure of the Romans to the Norman conquest no monumental effigy appears to have been executed. This gives to the Llantwit-fach stone a very considerable degree of interest, bearing as it does the armed figure of an ancient Briton, beneath which his name is inscribed, and ornamented with that singular interlaced ribbon-work characteristic of early British art.

It is true that the history of sepulture during this period is very obscure, but materials for a general review of the subject are daily accumulating. It may, however, be laid down as a rule that it was not until many years subsequent to the Norman conquest that sepulchral effigies were introduced.<sup>1</sup> Indeed, it is evident that the Normans themselves, at the time of the Conquest, had not adopted the practice, otherwise the tomb of the Conqueror<sup>2</sup> would have exhibited an effigy, as well as that of his son Rufus, whose simply coped tomb still exists at Winchester.

Mons. de Caumont, in the sixth volume of his *Cours d'Antiquités monumentales*, has devoted great attention to the history of sepulture in France, from the fourth to the sixteenth century; from which a few particulars may be advantageously abstracted having reference to sculptured monumental effigies.

Among the very early sarcophagi still preserved in the museums of the south of France enriched with sculptures, is one attributed to the Abbess Eusebia, on which is represented, in medallion, a person robed with the toga, most probably intended as a portrait.

<sup>1</sup> Gough has, at considerable length, endeavoured to disprove the claims of the various monuments which have been asserted to have been erected previous to the Conquest.—Vol. i. Introd. p. 41 and seq.

<sup>2</sup> Mons. de Bras, as quoted by M. de Caumont, gives the following account of the tomb of William the Conqueror previous to its destruction:—“Et finalement quelques iours après ils cassèrent le mesme locul de pierre on estoient les ossements de le Roy Duc, sous son sepulchre: lequel locul estoit d'une forte pierre de Voideryl couvert de mesme pierre, et soustenu sur trois petits pilastres de pierre blanche.” It is not stated whether the tomb was covered with a coped or flat stone, but that of his Queen Matilda, still preserved in the choir of St. Stephen, at Caen, is covered with a flat slab, with a Latin inscription.

The only instance, however, given by De Caumont in which the human figure is represented at full length, previous to the eleventh century, is a piece of mosaic work at St. Denis, forming the cover of the tomb of Fredegonda, which is attributed to the Merovingian era. Upon a slab, broadest at the head, is represented a figure of the queen, clad in royal robes, with the crown upon the head and the sceptre in the right hand. The face, hands, and feet were probably modelled in precious metals, which have been abstracted. From the figure given by Mons. de Caumont, I however feel much inclined to doubt the very early period assigned to this monument, the figure of which has much greater resemblance to thirteenth century work.

It was not, according to De Caumont, until the twelfth century that "on commença à décorer le tombeau de la statue couchée du défunt." From the coped form which, in the previous century,<sup>1</sup> had been given to the lids of tombs, together with the gradual diminution of their breadth from head to foot, the transition was easy to the figure of the deceased; whence, however, the first idea was obtained I have nowhere seen suggested, but from its having so soon attained the high perfection which we perceive in the tombs of the Plantagenet kings, at Fontevrault, there seems reason to think it probable that the idea was obtained from the East during the crusades.<sup>2</sup>

One of the most remarkable of the sculptured tombs of the thirteenth century, given by De Caumont, appears to possess a national interest for us. He thus describes it:—"Le tombeau du 13<sup>me</sup>. siècle le plus remarquable, peut-être, que j'aie rencontré, par la beauté de la statue qui le recouvre, est un de ceux qui existent dans les cryptes de Jouarre (Seine-et-Marne), dont j'ai déjà parlé. Cette statue est regardée, à Jouarre, comme celle d'une reine d'Ecosse appelée

<sup>1</sup> The coped form is, however, much earlier than the eleventh and twelfth centuries. The curious tomb at Dewsbury, figured by Whittaker in his *Loidis and Elmete*; and the recently discovered tomb at Bakewell, described in a recent number of the *Journal of the British Archaeological Association*, (but which requires a much more careful representation than is there given of it,) are both coped.

<sup>2</sup> Some highly curious stone coffins, with lids approaching to the coped form, of Clovis and his family, were found in the crypt of St. Geneviève at Paris, and are figured in the *Statistique Monumentale de Paris*. EDD. ARCH. CAMB.

Sainte Ozanne. J'ignore absolument sur quoi se fonde cette tradition."—p. 396. In a preceding page (243) the tomb is described as:—"Tombeau carré-plat offrant en-dessus une reine en relief habillée en religieuse, dite Sainte Ozanne, reine d'Ecosse. Cette statue du 13<sup>me</sup> siècle, je crois, est admirablement belle; la tête est magnifique, elle est parfaitement modelée dans toutes ses parties."

These regal monuments are, strictly speaking, recumbent statues representing the deceased as if lying in state, but many of the earliest of our monumental effigies are sculptured in low relief, the ground being sunk into the stone and the figure level with the surrounding margin. These latter monuments, which are the more immediate subjects of these and a subsequent article, and for the most part, were generally laid on a level with the pavement, contain effigies of ecclesiastics. Specimens of this class of monuments occur in several of our cathedrals. Their rarity, and the illustration they afford of some of the effigies in Wales, induce me to notice them shortly.

The earliest effigies given by Gough are those of the abbots of Westminster, of the end of the eleventh and beginning of the twelfth centuries, which have been so often engraved. The figure represented in his plate 2 as the effigies of Ingelrica, mistress of the Conqueror, must surely be antedated by a century at the least.

Mr. Stothard remarks<sup>1</sup> that "effigies are rarely to be met with in England before the middle of the thirteenth century, a circumstance not to be attributed to the causes generally assigned, which were either that they had been destroyed, or that the unsettled state of the times did not offer sufficient encouragement for erecting such memorials, but it rather appears not to have before become the practice to represent the deceased." It is an undoubted fact that the alteration introduced by the Normans was the addition of the figure of the person deceased, and then it appeared not in the bold style of the later Norman monuments, but partaking of the character and low relief of those tombs it was about to supersede; of these, and of the few, perhaps, that were executed, Roger of Salisbury is the only one in good preservation. The effigy of Joceline, Bishop of Salisbury, is in-

<sup>1</sup> *Monumental Effigies*, Introd. p. iv.

finitely more relieved than that of Roger, Bishop of the same see, which is far from possessing the bold relief we afterwards observe in the figure of King John."

Stothard has illustrated the monumental effigies of three Bishops, all of the twelfth century. First of Roger of Salisbury, (above mentioned,) who died in 1139, in the nave of Salisbury Cathedral. He is represented lying beneath a trefoil-headed arch, with a low mitre, holding his crozier in the left hand, with which he wounds a dragon beneath his feet; his right hand raised on his breast, giving the benediction; the whole enclosed within a beautiful foliated arabesque border. Jocelyn de Bailul, Bishop of Salisbury, is another whose effigy, like the former, is carved in low relief. It is, however, much plainer in its details, the figure rests beneath a wide rounded arch, the mitre is higher, the crozier is similarly held in the left hand, whilst the right is elevated over the right shoulder, in the act of benediction; this effigy is especially interesting from the long Latin legend carved on its various parts. The third is an effigy of a Bishop in Temple Church, resting beneath a trefoiled arch, but with a mitre much lower than either of the two preceding Bishops. He is represented in the same attitude as Jocelyn de Bailul.

Hollis (*Monumental Effigies*, part ii. pl. i.) represents a stone monument ascribed to Bishop de Rupibus, in Exeter Cathedral, the figure of which rests beneath an acute trefoiled arch, with a nearly equilateral triangulated mitre, holding with the left hand a book which rests on his stomach, and the right hand lying on his breast with the fingers extended; no date is ascribed to this monument.

Carter has figured the monumental incised effigies of three of the Abbots of Peterborough, lying on the pavement in the south aisle of the cathedral. One of these Abbots, Andrew, who died in 1199, is represented lying beneath a five lobed arch, above which the stone is adorned with tabernacle work of an early kind; he holds the staff in the right hand, the bottom of which pierces a dragon. An effigy, reputed to be that of St. Edan, the founder and first Bishop of Ferns, who died in 632, was discovered in a vault beneath the cathedral there, about seventy years ago. He lies beneath a trefoil arch, and wears a low mitre and a short crook; the upper angles of the stone are ornamented

with angels blowing trumpets. It cannot be earlier than the thirteenth century.

M. de Caumont has given figures of the effigies of ecclesiastics of the thirteenth century, which are for the most part analogous to those described; the chief difference consisting in the addition, at the sides of two of the figures, of angels holding candles and censers. One of these differs from the others, as well as from all which we possess in England, from having been cast in bronze. It is of the date of 1223, and with another at Amiens, is considered to be the only specimen of the kind existing in France.<sup>1</sup>

Wales possesses still fewer incised slabs with *full length* effigies in low relief than England. The finest which I have met with in the Principality is that of William de Brewsa, forty-second bishop of Llandaff, (according to Browne Willis's *Survey of Llandaff*, p. 51,) who was elected bishop about the middle of Lent, 1265, (*Godwyn de Præsulibus*,) and consecrated on the octave of Whitsuntide following, (*Annales Wigorn. in Angl. Sacra*. vol. i.-p. 508.) He died 19th March, 1286-7, and was blured on the north side of the high altar in the Lady Chapel, or Welsh Chapel as it is termed, of the cathedral.<sup>2</sup> The statue is in moderately low relief, carved in very hard bluish black stone, the feet are wanting, the bishop is clad in pontificalibus, the mitre acutely pointed at top, with the infulæ falling on the shoulders, the ears standing out, the face smooth; the pastoral staff is singularly holden by the left hand, the right being simply extended upon the breast. The various parts of the episcopal dress are easily to be made out; the head of the staff is beautifully foliated; the figure lies beneath a trefoil arch, the middle lobe being rounded, the fillet of the arch bearing the words

+ WILLELM<sup>S</sup> DE: BREWSA: EPS: LA:

The arch springs from capitals of Early English form, on

<sup>1</sup> Besides these bronzed effigies, of which we have no early example in England, France possesses specimens of four other varieties of sepulchral monuments, of which we are unable to exhibit any counterpart, namely, the early elaborately carved sarcophagi, the mosaic effigy of Fredegonda, the enamel effigy of Geoffrey Plantagenet, and the tombs placed on pillars, such as the tomb of William the Conqueror is described to have been.

<sup>2</sup> This chapel has, within the last year or two, been renovated in the Early English style in very good taste. The arch by which it is entered is rounded and ornamented with interesting mouldings.

slender columns, are surmounted by pinnacles, the crockets of which are formed by various kinds of natural leaves, each pinnacle being ornamented with a distinct kind of leaf. Unlike the more ordinary early representations of bishops, William de Brewsa is neither in the act of benediction, nor holding the sacred volume.

Another more deeply incised effigy is that lying beneath a semicircular arch in the north wall of the chancel of Corwen Church, which has recently been cleaned so as to allow its features to be determined.



Effigy of Iorwerth Sulien.

This is a very curious specimen, partaking, in one respect, of the semi-effigial figure; that is, the upper part of the figure is in relief, the plain spaces being deeply sunk, whilst the lower part below the waist is level with the surface, giving the figure the appearance of resting in bed, with the coverlet half turned down. It will be seen, however, that the robes of the deceased are carried over this part of the figure to the feet, notwithstanding the narrow square fillet which interrupts and separates this part of the body, and which bears the inscription

+ HIC: JACET: IORWERTH: SVLIEN: VICARIVS:  
DE CORVAEN: ORA PRO EO.

The figure rests beneath a pointed arch, and holds a chalice in the hands upon the breast. The head is tonsured on the crown, and the dress is very elaborately executed. It may be referred to the fourteenth or, at the latest, to the fifteenth century. This stone measures five feet and a half in length, being unusually narrow, and gradually widening to the head.

An interesting incised slab, of the latter part of the thirteenth century, has lately been discovered in the church of St. Bride, Glamorganshire. It represents Johan le Botiler, who is in armour, with the legs crossed, and bears a shield with his device of three covered cups, two of which, singularly, appear also on his scull-cap; and the sword in his right hand has a wavy line along it, which is also very unusual. The legend is in early French, and runs round three sides of the slab. (*Journal Arch. Institute*, vol. ii. p. 384, where there is a figure of the effigy.)

I shall here only notice, in addition to the above, the singular incised effigy, if it may be so termed, on the top of one of the buttresses on the north side of Cilcain Church, which I trust soon to see represented in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*.

With reference to the question whether effigies on tombs are to be considered as portraits, Gough (Introduction, p. 97) deems it certain that this "is the case with the regal monuments, and also with respect to particular monuments of lords and prelates, after the thirteenth century; but before that time the knights, crusaders, abbots, and bishops are too uniform and rude to mean anything more than a human figure." That the earlier effigies are rude enough and more or less uniform in their execution is true, but that each was intended as a portraiture of the person in whose memory they were executed, cannot, I think, admit of a single question.

The second portion of this paper will be devoted to those early incised stone monuments which contain only semi-effigies, or a still smaller portion of the human figure, or are merely ornamented with arabesque or other analogous designs. Of these memorials, (in which Wales appears to be richer than England,) one of the most interesting is the tomb-stone of the Princess Joan, daughter of King John, in which both these peculiarities are to be noticed, and of which an engraving, made especially for this work, is given as a frontispiece to the present number. It will be de-

scribed in my subsequent article, and is here alluded to in the hope of drawing attention to this class of monuments, for any notices of which, in the meantime, I shall feel obliged to the readers of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, in order that my paper may be as complete as possible.

J. O. WESTWOOD.

Hammersmith, 8th June 1847.

### TITLE OF PRINCE OF WALES.

In my communication as to the title of Prince of Wales, printed in the first volume of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, (see page 143 of that vol.) I have remarked upon the coincidence as to the time at which, in Wynne's *History of Wales*, Edward of Caernarvon is said to have received the homage of the freeholders of Wales, at Chester, and the time when, there can surely be no reason to doubt, he was raised to the dignity of Prince of Wales. Before that communication was written, it appeared to me extremely probable that Edward received the homage of the Welsh, as stated in Wynne's *History*, immediately, or very soon after, and in consequence of his elevation to the Principality; and I now feel sure that such was the fact; for amongst the records in the branch office, Carlton Ride, the Reverend Joseph Hunter's Dept., I find an original roll, entitled "Rotulus de fidelitate et attendencia presentata Ricardo de Stafford, et Sociis suis," &c., which is a list or statement of all persons who had performed fealty to the officers of Edward the Black Prince, for him, upon *his* receiving, from his father, a grant of the Principality of Wales. The roll commences with a transcript of letters patent of Edward III., in which the king recites that he has granted to his son the Principality of Wales, &c., &c. That grant was made 12th May, 17 Edw. III.; the roll to which I have referred is of the same year. I subjoin, as a specimen, a transcript of so much of it as relates to the county of Merioneth:—

Adhuc de fidelitate, et attendencia, et sacramentis ministrorum, coram prefatis Ricardo, et sociis suis, apud Harde laghe, die Sabbati, in vigilia sancti Laurencii, Anno supra dicto. (17 Edw. III.)<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 9th of August, 1343.

*Hardelagh.*—Bartholomeus de Salle, constabularius castri de Hardelaghe, fecit sacramentum et attendenciam, de officio suo, domino Principi, coram prefato Ricardo, et sociis suis.

*Sacramenta Ballivorum et Ministrorum.*—Idem Bartholomeus, Maior ville de Hardelaghe, fecit sacramentum de officio maioritatis &c.

Thomas Vaghan, Ballivus ville predicte, fecit sacramentum de officio &c.

Thomas Brice, ballivus et Coronator ville predicte, fecit sacramentum de officio &c.

*Fidelitas ville de Hardelaghe.*—Thomas Vaghan, Willielmus le Taillour, Johannes d Audele, Gilbertus Baynard, Thomas le Colier, Johannes Pelle, Ricardus Prat, Gilbertus Scot, Robertus le Colier, Johannes ffab', Johannes le Colier, Ricardus Gune, et omnes alii tenentes de villa de Hardelaghe, singillatim faciūt, [sic] fidelitatem et attendenciam, dicto domino Principi, coram prefatis Ricardo, et sociis suis, &c.

*Sacramentum Vicecomitis.*—Howel ap Grono, vicecomes de Meyryonyth, fecit sacramentum de officio vicecomitis &c.

*Fidelitas.*—Abbas de Kymmer fecit fidelitatem dicto domino Principi, coram prefatis R. &c.

Abbas de Thanegwystel,<sup>1</sup> Abbas de Strathmaghel, et Abbas de Basingwerk, et Griff. de Glyndordo, nondum venientes, ideo &c.

*Fidelitas Baronum.*—Rees ap Madoc, Griffith ap David ap Elise, Madoc ap Elise, Teg' Madoc, Owelyn ap David ap Griffith, Thlewelyn ap David ap Griffith, Barones de Edyrnion, fecerunt fidelitatem et attendenciam, singillatim, dicto domino Principi, coram prefatis &c.

Barones de Abertanad<sup>2</sup> nondum venientes, ideo &c.

*Fidelitas Communitatis Comitatus de Merioneth.*—Ieuau ap Thlewelyn, Thlewelyn Vaghan, Griffith ap Vryen, David ap Gurgeneu, Atha Coch ap Eynion, Eynion ap Thlewelyn, Griffith ap Iorwerth, Edneved ap Vrien, Griffith ap Atha, Ieuau Vaghan ap Ieuau ap Gwyn, Ririt ap Kenric, Owelyn ap David ap Griffith, Leuelin Vaghan ap Leuelin ap Cad, Griffith Vaghan, Griffith ap Owelyn, Edneved ap Leuelyn,

<sup>1</sup> This is no doubt intended for Llanegwystel or Valle Crucis.

<sup>2</sup> Abertanatt, formerly part of the county of Merioneth, was united to Shropshire by a statute of the reign of King Hen. VIII.

Ieuan ap Einion Vaghan, Griffith Gothyn Map Eynion, Eynion ap Aron, David ap Cadugan ap Ithel, Eynion ap Griffith, Iorwerth ap Ieuan, Kenric ap Eynion, Ieuan ap Ada, Howel ap Ririt, Gwyn Thloit Gwynagh, et Comunitas Comitatus de Merioneth, singillatim fecerunt fidelitatem et attendenciam dicto domino Principi coram prefato Ricardo, et sociis suis &c.

*Sacramento Wodewardorum.*—Johannes de Hosom, Wodewardus de Ardudo, Petrus de Ouerton, Wodewardus de Estimaner, et Petrus de Ouerton, Wodewardus de Talypond, fecerunt sacramenta de officio &c.

Rogerus de Heyton, Wodewardus de Penthlyn, et Gween ap Madoc, Coronator de Penthlyn, nondum venientes, ideo &c.

*Auxilium petitur.*—Et quesitum est, per prefatum Ricardum, et socios suos, hic, ad hunc diem, de Baronibus et hominibus totius istius Comitatus, id, quod prefato domino Principi, in auxilium, ad castra ac villas sua, in predictis partibus, reparanda et perficienda, in initio noui dominii sui, voluerint exhibere: qui quidem Barones, et homines predicti, sic responderunt; quod tres, vel quatuor, de probioribus hominibus Comitatus predicti, mittere voluerint, coram prefato domino Principi, et consilio suo, in tres septimanas sancti Michaelis, proxime futuras, ubicunque fuerint, &c., et de premissis &c., tunc ibidem respondere.<sup>1</sup>

W. W. E. W.

### ANECDOTES

#### CHARACTERISTIC OF THE LAWLESS STATE OF SOCIETY IN MERIONETHSHIRE, IN THE REIGNS OF EDWARD IV. AND HENRY VIII.

From an original manuscript, written in 1654, in the autograph of Robert Vaughan, of Hengwrt, Esq., the Merionethshire antiquary.

HOWEL ap Jenkin, of Ynys-y-maengwyn, seeing his father's meanes [estate] after his death was to be divided between him and his brethren,<sup>2</sup> whereby he was to have but y<sup>e</sup> 3 parte, whereas y<sup>e</sup> whole seemed little inough for him in his conceit, plodded how to procure his father to passe the

<sup>1</sup> It would appear from this, that the Princes of Wales had no power of taxing their subjects, without the consent of the latter.

<sup>2</sup> By the law of *Gavelkind*, then prevalent in Wales.

whole upon him; which when by faer meanes he could not obtaine, he, confiding in the y<sup>e</sup> greatnes of his allies, tooke the old man his father, and imprisoned him in Harlegh castell, where he [his] father in lawe<sup>1</sup> was Constable; from whence he was not released untill he passed all his lands upon Howell and Mary his wife, & theire issue, by his deede, w<sup>th</sup> beareth date y<sup>e</sup> 19th of Edw. 4. . . . .

Humffrey ap Howell ap Jenkin [eldest son of the person above-mentioned] gott a deputacion of that office, [the office of sheriff] for y<sup>e</sup> county of Merioneth, aboute the yeare

of Henry 8:<sup>2</sup> and falling out w<sup>th</sup> his cosin Howell Vaughan, of Llwydiarth, in Powys, who at that tyme dwelled at Caergai in Merionshire, what though he were out of his owne county, yet found enough in this countrey; for besids his two sonnes, John and Humffrey, being lustie yong men, & Morgan ap John of Cynllwyd, Howell's brother in law, a man of great power in Penllyn, he had out of Talybont, Tudur Vaughan ap Griffith ap Howell,<sup>3</sup> out of y<sup>e</sup> prime men of that countrey, & William ap Jenkin, & Morgan his brother, y<sup>e</sup> sonnes of Jenkin ap Iorwerth afores<sup>d</sup>, who being disinherited by meanes of their brother Howell, as is before declared, sided w<sup>th</sup> Howell Vaughan against Humfrey, their brother's sonne. Nevertheless Humfrey ap Howell ap Jenkin, by virtue of his office, raysed a great number of men out of Estmanner, [Estimaner,] & came to Caergai, where he seised upon all the cattel of Howell Vaughan that he found, & did drive them to Talybont. Howell with his friends followed hard after but could not overtake them, vntil Tudur Vaughan, having notice of the matter, came w<sup>th</sup> a companie of 50 archers and met the shieriff & his men driving y<sup>e</sup> cattell and began to skirmishe, whereupon Howell Vaughan came in sight: then the shireff, seing himself to be overmached, left y<sup>e</sup> cattell, & gave ground. Tudur Vaughan pursued hard after them; then Howell Vaughan recovered his cattell, and w<sup>th</sup> his men returned thinke[ing] all had

<sup>1</sup> Sir Roger Kynaston, Knt., see *Archæologia Cambrensis*, vol. i. p. 265.

<sup>2</sup> By a roll of Ministers' Accounts for the county of Merioneth, for the year ending at Michaelmas, 13 Hen. VIII., (1521,) in the Branch Record Office, Carlton Ride, the Rev. Joseph Hunter's department, it appears that at that time Humphrey ap Howel ap Jenkin was deputy to John Scudamor, sheriff for Merionethshire.

<sup>3</sup> Ancestor to the Vaughans, formerly of Caerynwch, near Dolgelley.

been ended. The shieriffe perceiving that none followed but Tudur Vaughan & his men, whoe for the most parte were a foot, comanded his men still to give ground, till they came to the Bwlch (being a narrow passage beetweene two great mountaines) where he wished them to make a stand,<sup>1</sup> & if Tudur Vaughan did com thither that then they should fale [fall] upon him suddenly and take him; which was done accordingly; for Tudur Vaughan being on horsback came before his men, who were a foot, & soe was taken & his men beaten back. Then he was sent to Aberystwyth castle in Cardiganshire to be imprisoned, from whence, not long after, he was set at libertie, & returned to his countrey. This was about 15. H.[enry] 8.

1847.

W. W. E. W.

## RELICS OF SIR RHYS AP THOMAS, K.G.



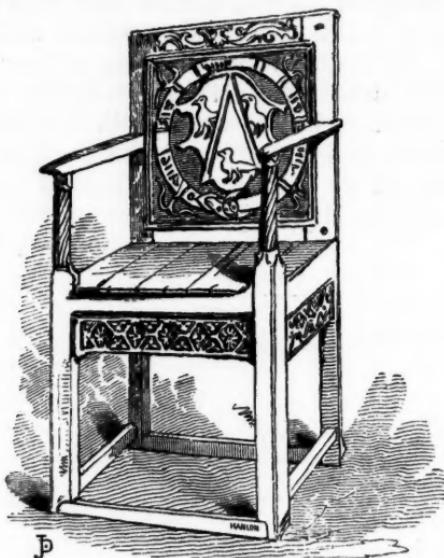
Seal of Sir Rhys ap Thomas, K.G.

AMONGST the most celebrated of Welshmen may be ranked that eminent knight, Sir Rhys ap Thomas; and as "straws thrown up" are said to "shew how the wind blows," so items trifling in themselves illustrate, or become interesting by their connexion with, persons of note. The first is the seal of Sir Thomas, attached to a letter of quittance to the tenants of his son, Edward Stradling, Esq., dated 1494. Sir Rhys had married the widow of Thomas Stradling, Esq., who was a daughter of Sir William Thomas, of Ragland Castle, knt.

The deed to which this seal is attached was formerly in my collection of Glamorganshire MSS., but finding that Lord Dynevor, the representative of Sir Rhys, had no seal or document of his illustrious ancestor, I presented it to his lordship, through his son, the Hon. Col. Rice Trevor, to be placed amongst the family muniments.

<sup>1</sup> Probably near the small pool called *Llyn Tri Graienyn*, better known as Llyn Bach, in the wild and romantic pass between Dolgelley and Tal-y-lyn.

The other illustration is a drawing of one of two chairs which belonged to Sir Rhys, and by tradition said to have been used by the valiant knight. They are in very tolerable preservation at Dynevor Castle, near Llandilo, and are good examples of the substantial furniture of the Tudor period.



Chair of Sir Rhys ap Thomas, K. G.

It will be perceived that the crows or ravens between a chevron are surrounded by the garter, and on the seal the raven is surmounted by the initial of the family name, an R.

The words on the ribbon are the usual motto of the order of the garter.

Swansea.

G. G. F.

#### ANCIENT MONUMENT AT LLANVERIN, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

In the churchyard of Llanvetherine, usually called Llanverin, in the county of Monmouth, five miles north-east from Abergavenny, on the side of the turnpike road leading towards Ross, in Herefordshire, is a large monumental stone, having on it a carved figure, of which a representation is here given. The stone is six feet eight inches long, two feet eight inches wide at the eastern end, where are the feet of the

figure, and two feet six and a half inches at the other end; and is in thickness about five inches.

The figure carved on it is in relief, raised about two inches from the rest of the stone, and in the dress of a clergyman in priest's orders, as worn at the time the person



MANOR

Monument at Llanverin.

represented lived, viz., having about him an alb, stole, and chasuble, with a maniple hanging on his left arm. It represents a person standing, holding with his left hand a book close to his body, and having his right hand, with fingers broken off, elevated in the attitude of pronouncing a benediction.

On the middle of the figure, and partly on the book, as represented in the accompanying drawing, is inscribed *S. VETTERINVS*, and near the head and right hand *IACOB PSONA*, which inscription is thought to have been originally considerably longer, and to intimate that a parson of the parish, of the name of James, caused the monument to be executed. The church is considered to have derived its name

from, and the figure to represent, St. Gwytherin ap Dingad, (Latinized into Vetterinus,) who lived in the latter part of the sixth century, after whom a church in Denbighshire is also named, where St. Winefred was buried.<sup>1</sup>

The stone was accidentally found about a century ago, buried deep in the earth, in digging to make room for a burial vault in the chancel, and had probably been concealed there at a time when images of every description were deemed calculated to excite superstition, and the destroying them considered meritorious. It is now placed by the south wall on the outside of the church, immediately opposite where it was found within, and where it has probably been since it was discovered; but there is an intention to get it removed to the inside, whereby it will be protected from the effects of the weather and other injuries to which it is liable in its present exposed situation.

A manuscript in the British Museum, one of those termed the "additional MSS.," has reference to this ancient monument, under the title of a "Sketch in ink of a stone figure of St. Veterinus, at Llanvetherine, near Abergavenny." The book contains several views in Monmouthshire, (copper-plates,) very incorrectly done, a couple of very ordinary maps of the county, &c., and the drawing in question, which is about the best done of any in the collection, although not accurately executed. A memorandum at the foot of the drawing mentions several particulars relating to the discovery of the stone, its inscriptions, and St. Veterinus having given the name to the church Llanvetherine, nearly in the same terms as related above.

R.

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### PRIORY OF DOMINICAN FRIARS, RHUDDLAN, FLINTSHIRE

THE unsatisfactory complaint, of fewness of materials for the history of Religious Houses in Wales, applies with peculiar force to that of the Priory of Rhuddlan; and the utmost that can, at present, be attempted towards an account of it must consist in the stringing together of various brief and unconnected notices, scattered up and down in various books, and a few manuscripts. Even Dugdale and Tanner nearly fail

<sup>1</sup> Rees's *Welsh Saints*, p. 275.

the historian in this instance; nor have other writers been able to throw any light worth mentioning upon the subject.

The original edition of Dugdale's *Monasticon* makes no mention of this house; and the next principal authority is Tanner, in his *Notitia Monastica*.

Under the head of "Rhudland," Tanner's words are (p. 711):—"Here was an House of Black friers before A.D. 1268, when Anian de Schonan, prior of this house, was made bishop of St. Asaph. It suffered very much in the wars of King Edward I. with Lewelline last prince of Wales, but recovered and subsisted till the dissolution, when it was granted to Henry ap Harry, 32 Hen. 3."

Tanner refers, in elucidation of this notice, to Browne Willis's *St. Asaph*, p. 154, and also to Pat. 12 Edw. I. m. 6., Pat. 4 Edw. II. p. 1. m.

Browne Willis, in his *Survey of St. Asaph*, p. 413, says:—"Here are the remains of an Abbey, the Religious of which are said to have been of a military order." This most probably refers to the Priory, though there is nothing positive to warrant this conclusion from the author's words; indeed, this passing notice is infinitely more meagre than might have been expected. It has been before hinted, in the History of Basingwerk Abbey, (*Arch. Camb.* vol. i. p. 105,) that the House of Templars, which Henry II. is stated to have founded in Flintshire, might have been established at Rhuddlan, and that, after the suppression of that Order, it was given to the Friars Preachers; but in the absence of all documentary, and even collateral, evidence, no sure ground can be obtained for this conjecture; which, nevertheless, is strengthened by the passing notice of the Historian of St. Asaph. It is not impossible but that the House of Templars alluded to may have been what was afterwards termed the Hospital of Rhuddlan, which will be mentioned hereafter.

In the new edition of Dugdale's *Monasticon* occurs the following entry under the head of Rutland, but on referring to Tanner, edit. 1744, fol., no mention of this quotation can be found:—"Rutland. Tanner says, the Black Friars were settled here in the reign of Richard III. As his authority, he quotes an entry in the Harleian MS. 433, fol. 105, of a 'Grant to the Puryour and the Convent of the Frere Preachours in the towne of Rutlande for fisshing with oon nette in

the water of Clowde from Rutland to the sea, 1 Ric. III.; evidently belonging to the Friars Preachers of Rhuddlan in Flintshire."<sup>1</sup> That this is intended for Rhuddlan is proved by the name of the river Clowde for Clwyd.



Effigy, Rhuddlan Church.

The earliest documentary evidence of the existence of Dominican Friars at this place is contained in the Roll of Expenses of Rhuddlan Castle, dated A.D. 1281, and quoted by the late H. Maxwell, Esq., in the fourth volume of the *Cymrodonorion Transactions*, p. 350. It has the following entries:—

	“Alms and oblations	s. d.
Paid for the subsistence of the Preaching Friars of Rothelan.....	7 8	
For the brethren of the Hospital of Rothelan .....	1 1	

The next document in order of time is one quoted by Browne Willis, (*St. Asaph*, vol. ii. p. 49,) being a release, dated A.D. 1284, granted to Edward I. by the Archdeacon, Dean, and Chapter of St. Asaph. In this document mention is made of an inquisitor by the name of “S. Prioris de

<sup>1</sup> Dugd. *Monast.* vol. vi. p. 1492, new edition.

Ruddlan," and at the end of it is added, "Idem (facit) Conventus predicatorum Rodolan pro xvii. Lib. x. Sol."

In the will of Bishop Gervase de Castro, (Probat. 3 cal. Nov. 1370,) quoted by Browne Willis in his *Bangor*, (appendix, p. 220, No. 17,) a legacy of sixty shillings to the



Effigy, Rhuddlan Priory.

Friars Preachers of "Rethland" is mentioned. And a similar bequest of twenty shillings is made to them by Llewelyn ap Madoc, Bishop of St. Asaph, A.D. 1373, as is shown by his will quoted by Willis, (vol. ii. p. 90.)

It appears from the Letter addressed by John Peckham, Archbishop of Canterbury, to Anian II., Bishop of St. Asaph, in A.D. 1284, (B. Willis, vol. ii. pp. 44, 45,) that Friars Preachers and Friars Minors were at that period established in Wales; for he complains of the people being unwilling to attend to their preaching, though he observes they were "almost the only persons in those parts in whom the doctrine of truth resided." It does not, however, appear that the Bishop himself belonged to the Priory of Rhuddlan, though Tanner, as will be seen above, states that he did. Browne Willis says that this prelate was of Nanney, (or Nannau,) and was called "Y Brawd du o Nanney," or "the Black Brother of Nanney;" and on the whole it may be doubted whether the Dominicans were settled at Rhuddlan long before the conquest of Wales by Edward I. Harpsfield, who calls Anian "Antonius," does not state from what house he came, and indeed makes no mention of his having been of the Dominican order at all. Pennant follows Tanner, and, quoting Rymer's *Fædera*, vol. ii. p. 292, says that a compensation of £17. 10s. was made to the community of this House for losses sustained in the wars of Edward I. with the Welsh.

In the *Summa Libri Rubei Asaphensis, &c.*, (Nichol's *Collectanea*, vol. ii. p. 258,) occurs the following entry, made, among others, during the Episcopate of Anian II.: "Indulgencia accendentibus ad locum Fratrum Predicatorum orationis causa," which most probably refers to Rhuddlan. On the same page is another entry: "Facultas concessa pro Hospitali de Jerusalem ut aliquis non compareat in Capitulo eorum, &c. (*sine dat.*)," which is noticed here because it may possibly allude to the Hospital of Rhuddlan.

Some MSS. notes relating to Rhuddlan, which have been kindly communicated from the Rhyl MSS. by their owner, Miss Angharad Llwyd, contain portions of an Inquisition and Extent of lands belonging to the church of that parish in the 7th Edw. I. After mentioning "Nun-Land," and making a query whether there had not been some foundation of religious sisters at this place, Mr. Llwyd, the compiler of the

MS., gives, as a note, "The priory was scarce yet erected, (vide vol. i. p. 58, a charter granted to Rhyddlan,) and I find a Prior of Rhyddlan witnessing a deed, in the year 1270, between Madoc ap Llewelyn and Owen ap Gryffydd, Lord of Bromfield and Yal:—

‘Hijs Testibus

Dño Anian Eþo de Sþo Asaf, David Decano de Bromfeld, ffþe  
Kenericko Priore de Ruthlan, Dño Gervasio Abbe de Vale Crucis et  
aliis. Dað. Dynas Brân Anno Dñi. mclxx."

Another note is as follows:—

"P. 32, vol. iii. ‘An ode in praise of the sweet Jesus of Rhuddlan by Raff ap Robert.’—This appears, by the Poem, was an Image of our Saviour in the Monastery of Rhyddlan in the year 1518, to which great adoration was paid."

No information has yet been obtained as to the value of the property of this Priory; in fact, the whole history of the establishment remains in deep obscurity. That there was an Hospital existing near it is not only known from what has been quoted above, but is also confirmed by local tradition, the site being well known at the present day. The account of this Hospital given by Tanner is very brief, his only words being “there was also an Hospital near Rhudland as old as A.D. 1281, or 10 Edw. I. Vide Prynne’s *Records*, vol: iii. p. 124,” and in noticing what is said about Rhuddlan in Camden, with Gibson’s additions, he says of a gateway mentioned as being half a mile from the village, “this last is probably the remains of the Hospital which was not in, but near, Rhudland.” This Hospital might have been a small establishment belonging to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem; but no positive evidence has yet been brought to bear upon this point.

The Priory stood half a mile from Rhuddlan in the direction of St. Asaph, and the only notice that has been observed of its buildings is in the words of Pennant, vol. ii. p. 16: “The priory of Black friars stood about half a mile south of the castle. There is a fragment which bears the marks of antiquity; the rest is disguised in the form of a farm-house and barn.” This brief notice of Pennant’s is repeated by other writers, and no other account of the building has been anywhere discovered. Within the memory of some of the inhabitants of Rhuddlan, portions of the Priory

were standing which have now disappeared; but at present, all that is to be seen consists of a part of the buildings converted into barns and farming sheds.

On the southern side of the farm yard which now occupies the site of this Religious House is a stone building, with a range of small oblong square-headed windows, or loops, in its upper part. It may have been one of the less important buildings belonging to the establishment; and on the western side is a wall containing two single-light pointed loops of the Early Decorated period, but without foliations. A very few fragments of architectural ornaments, all apparently of the same date,—the end of the thirteenth century, may be found worked up into the walls; and in particular close by a horse-block at the garden gate is a portion of the tracery of a Decorated window head, as well as the lower part of a coffin-lid bearing a stepped cross.

If, however, the Records and the Buildings of this Priory have so entirely disappeared, the tombs that remain are of much interest. There are two incised slabs placed vertically in the outer wall of the building, on the southern side of the yard, and it is said that a third exists concealed under some portion of the outhouses; they will be noticed hereafter. The most striking monumental remain is the figure of a knight of the thirteenth century, placed vertically in the wall of a building on the eastern side of the yard, an engraving of which is given above. No inscription remains to identify the personage commemorated. The stone is much worn away, and the position of the hands, as well as the disproportion of the arms to the body, is remarkable. This figure is four feet nine inches long, by one foot four inches broad at the elbows.

Another fragment of a recumbent figure, which is also here illustrated, is now to be found in a niche over the eastern window of the southern aisle of Rhuddlan Church, whither it was brought from the Priory by Dean Shipley. It is so much defaced that it is hardly possible to decide upon the condition of the person it represents, but it looks like the figure of an ecclesiastic.

H. L. J.

(*To be continued.*)

## MONA MEDIÆVA.

## No. VII.



N. Door-way, Llanbedr Goch.

**LLANBEDR GOCH.** This is one of the chapelries of Llandyfnan; and its church, which is the only ancient edifice in the parish, is a small cruciform building of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. The total interior length of the nave is twenty-four feet, width fourteen feet; and of the chancel four feet six inches, width fourteen feet; each of the transepts are squares of about fourteen feet six inches in each dimension. The whole interior length is forty-two feet six inches. The nave has no window, but is furnished with a northern and a southern doorway, the former of which is depicted in the accompanying illustration. Its rude execution will not escape notice; and its style, judging from the mouldings and curves, must be assigned, at the soonest, to the Early Perpendicular period. In each of the transepts are plain,

square-headed windows of two lights each, not older perhaps than the seventeenth century. The oldest portion of the church may be the chancel, which contains a Decorated window of three trefoiled lights and flowing tracery, with plainly chamfered mouldings, and a dripstone ending in horizontal returns. It is of the same design as that in the north aisle of Llanidan Old Church, (vide vol. i. p. 432.) The crosses on the gables have been destroyed. The font, which is anomalously placed near the entrance of the chancel in the axis of the church, is a plain octagon in form. The western wall has a single bell-gable. In the chancel window is a shield of arms containing a false blazon, viz.: Gules, on a Bend Sable three Saxon's heads, Or. The church is built nearly east and west, and is under the invocation of St. Peter. The festival is on June 29.

PENTRAETH. This is another chapelry of Llanddyfman, and is remarkable for being one of the sweetest spots in the isle of Anglesey. It is close to the Traeth Coch, (Red Wharf Bay,) and is well worthy of being visited.

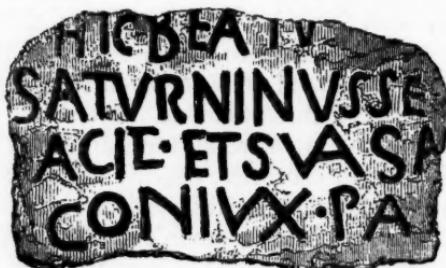
The church consists of a single aisle, or nave, fifty-nine feet long, by twenty-two feet nine inches wide externally, with a chapel on the southern side, near the eastern end, twenty-two feet square externally, and a porch on the same side of the building. Over the west end is a single bell-gable of one step, with canopied ends to the coping stones. Within the porch is an ancient font, the history of which is not known; it is of a barrelled form, about twenty-two inches high, by twenty-one inches in diameter; circular in form, and having a shallow basin only nine inches deep, by fourteen and a half inches in diameter. The material is rough gritstone. The font now in use, at the western end of the nave, is octagonal in form, standing on three steps. In the northern wall is a small doorway blocked up; two single-light windows, and one of two cinque-foiled headed lights, the latter near the eastern end. In the southern wall is one double-light window; and in the chapel, at the southern end, is a three-light window under a square label, the lights pointed but not foliated, with another of two cinque-foiled pointed lights, in the eastern wall. All these windows are of the Early Perpendicular period. The eastern window of the choir is of three-lights, of the same design and style as that of Llandyssilio, (vol. ii. p. 196,) except that the returns of

the dripstone are plain and horizontal. This, too, is of the Early Perpendicular period though of Decorated design, like many other eastern windows in this county. The crosses on the gables have been broken off. The interior of the church is greatly blocked up with pews, but is kept in excellent repair, and has a degree of neatness and comfort about it quite unusual in this district. The timbers of the roof are closely set together, light in section, but producing a good effect. On the northern side of the altar, in the eastern wall, is a niche with a trifoliated head, under a square label, the vertical parts of which have been broken off, so that only the horizontal line remains. On a monument within the church are the arms of Williams, of Tufru, viz.: Quarterly, first and fourth argent, two cross-foxes gules; second, argent a chevron sable between three ravens of the second, with branches in their bills; third, Sable a chevron argent between three fleurs-de-lys of the second. In the centre of the shield an escutcheon of pretence, gules, a chevron or, between three foxes of the second.

In the churchyard are several tombstones of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, bearing the armorial shields of various notable families in this vicinity, all in good preservation and worthy of being recorded. The orientation of this church is east and west. The name of the village, instead of being taken from its position at the head of the Traeth Coch, (which, according to tradition, once communicated with the Malltraeth, and thus divided Mona into two islands,—a tradition by no means improbable,) is more properly Llanfair Bettws Geraint. The church is under the invocation of the Blessed Virgin, and the festival is on the eighth of September; but, from the name of the early British saint with which it is connected, we should infer that a second dedication of some newer building must have taken place here. For an account of Geraint, who lived in the fifth century, see Rees's *Welsh Saints*, p. 169. The church is figured in Grose's *Antiquities*.

LLANSADWRN. The small church of this parish consists of a single aisle, forty-nine feet six inches long, by sixteen feet six inches wide externally, with a chapel twenty feet by seventeen feet six inches on the northern side. The walls are only six feet high outside to the eaves of the roof. In the western wall is a small square-headed loop, and on it a

single bell-gable, on one step, with an elegantly curved ogee coping. A modern doorway is in the northern wall of the nave; and in the southern are two square-headed Perpendicular windows, and one modern. The eastern window of the church is a small one of two lights, pointed but not foliated, and Decorated in character. On the gable above it is the fragment of a cross, which, from the remains of its foliations, must have been of unusual elegance. In the recess of a window, in the eastern wall of the chapel, is the inscription of which an engraving is annexed; it is of very early character, perhaps of the sixth or seventh century, and commemorative of the saint under whose invocation the church is placed, St. Sadwrn Farchog, brother of St. Iltyd, who lived in the sixth century. (Rees's *Welsh Saints*, p. 222.)



Ms. L. 2. J. 2

Inscription at Llansadwrn.

This inscription is the more remarkable as making mention of the wife of this holy personage. In the interior wall of the chapel the head of an ecclesiastical personage, wearing a flat scull-cap, is inserted. It seems as if it had been the end of a dripstone to some window. The coping of the north-western end of the gable of this chapel terminates below in a bear's head muzzled. The church is built nearly east and west; the festival is November 29th.

H. L. J.

FFYNNON VAIR, WYGFAIR, DENBIGHSHIRE,  
NEAR ST. ASAPH.



East end of Capel Vair, Wygfair.

In one of the sweetest vallies of Denbighshire, near to where the Elwy, after emerging from the bosom of the hills, makes its way into the Vale of Clwyd, is to be found a Holy Well, an interesting relic of former days. Its name is known to few, except those who have visited it; but its beautiful features will not be readily forgotten by whoso has once tasted of its limpid waters. A perennial spring of great purity bursts forth from beneath a steep bank, now clothed with luxuriant wood; and, after filling a receptacle hollowed out by the hands of pious men, runs across a meadow into the rapid and gurgling stream of the Elwy. The waters do not appear to possess any peculiar medicinal qualities; but the suddenness of their appearance, the copiousness of their supply, the retirement and the beauty of the spot, where they come to light, were no doubt sufficient causes, in times of more fervent religious feeling, to gain for them

the reputation of sanctity; and to induce the erection of a building where maladies of mind and of body might meet with relief, and where praises might be offered to the Giver of all good for even this small, and as it were fortuitous, instance of His parental bounty.

The adjacent district is composed of the carboniferous limestone rocks, which hereabouts enter so largely into the geological structure of North Wales; and two of the distinguishing features of which are the occurrence of long winding clefts or caverns, and the sudden eruption of copious streams. Thus in the immediate neighbourhood of this well, and higher up the valley near Cefn, are to be found some remarkably curious caverns and perforated rocks, well known to all Clwydian lovers of the marvellous and the picturesque; while at Holywell itself, on the north-eastern slope of the Flintshire Hills, the abundant water that pours forth testifies to the cavernous structure of its mother earth, and has led to a similar, but better known, instance of consecration and architectural edification.

Nothing is known as to the time of the Ffynnon Vair first coming into its reputation of sanctity, nor of its being placed, along with the chapel that covered it, under the invocation of the Blessed Virgin. It is one of the old traditions of Wales that loses itself in the remoteness of time:—“*Hi ritus, quoquo modo inducti, antiquitate defenduntur.*”

Our fathers revered this spot and loved it in days gone by; were it only for our father's memories we are bound not to look upon it with indifference, nor to slight those honest feelings that actuated breasts not less pure, not less devotional, than our own.

Some persons, more generous and more wealthy than the rest, must have been the constructors of the chapel within which the well is situated; and probably the clergy of the neighbouring episcopal see, and the religious fraternities of the neighbouring monasteries, may have lent their hands to the good work. The earlier portion of the building seems to date from the first half of the fifteenth century, while the later and more elaborate part is of the same style and period as the edifice at Holywell, being not long anterior to the great religious revolution of the sixteenth century. From the form indeed of the immediate casing and covering of the well itself, it may be inferred that the architect of Holywell

was employed also at Ffynnon Vair; and, if so, then perhaps the persons, who contributed their alms towards the one, may have aided in the construction of the other.

The building,—such is the melancholy result of the destroying spirit of man,—is now totally ruined; only the shell of the walls remains. The elegant shrine-work, that covered the well, is level with the ground; no other canopy, save that of the heavens, and the superincumbent foliage, protects the waters from profanation; even in the present day, when the hand of taste and liberality had done something towards restoring the well to its original state of beauty and purity, the fell spirit of local malevolence intervened, and once more marred the well-intended work.<sup>1</sup> As if, however, to make amends for the evil deeds of her spoiled child, man, Nature herself has interfered for the protection of the well, and has decked it with carpets and coverings, and encircling shrines, far more lovely than ever architect could have devised. The mosses and lichens that luxuriate within the water and around its brim,—the wych-elms and other trees that throw their sweeping branches, in graceful curves, over and around the building,—the ivy that mantles its walls with incredible thickness of leaves,—the spring flowers, and the green turf, and the sparkling waters bubbling along their pebbly course,—the never-ceasing songs of the woodland choristers, chanting their hymns of praise to the deep harmony of the bounding stream, while man alone remains mute,—all these beautiful accessories of the scene compensate, in the mind of the contemplative pilgrim, for the damage so ruthlessly and so needlessly done, and even make the place more lovely than could all the trickeries of sculptured stone, and painted roof, and storied glass.

Still the hand of Desolation is there; the spirit of Religion is fled; the waters still well forth; they are there, pellucid, cool, and ever abundant for the use of man; but there is no one to give God the praise, no one to help the sick and needy into the pool of health, no one to welcome the

<sup>1</sup> A gentleman residing near the well had it lately cleaned out, and made the ruins rather more accessible to visitors. But, on account of some petty offence taken by the lower classes of his neighbours, in one night all that he had done was destroyed, and the well desecrated more than ever. This spirit of revengeful and gloomy fanaticism is anything but uncommon in Wales.

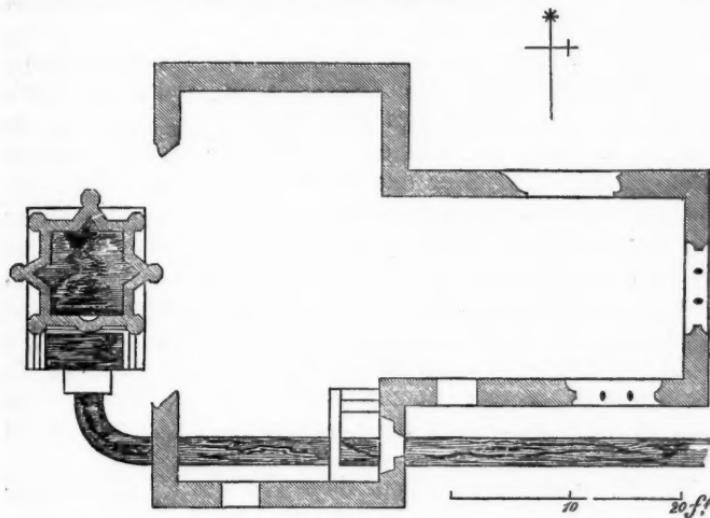
sufferer on his arrival, nor to pray for his recovery, nor to bid him God speed on his return. All is left by thankless man to the hand of Him who first bade the waters flow ; and degenerate sons now neglect, or scoff at, their fathers' work.

The edifice, as far as can be made out from the ruins that remain, consisted of a cruciform building, standing with its main axis due east and west ; the longer arm of the cross being at the eastern end, and used, no doubt, as the chancel. In the western arm was the well, but the surrounding walls have totally disappeared ; so much so, that the well might seem to have been outside the building, only that the extreme improbability of the case leads us to infer the contrary. The southern arm of the cross or transept seems to have been the earliest portion of the edifice, there being still a small window looking towards the east, the heads of the three lights of which, and a doorway close by, possess Decorated characters. All the rest of the chapel is of the Late Perpendicular style. Over the gable of the *northern* transept seems to have been a bell-turret, but the ivy is so thickly-mantling there, and it would be such a pity to disturb it, that this point is rather uncertain. An aperture may be seen through the leaves, in winter time, which has every appearance of having been made for a bell.

The total length of the building was probably not more than sixty feet, and its width was only sixteen ; so that it was a small, humble chapel, suited merely to the wants of a country district. At the eastern end was a four-centred window, perhaps of three lights, shewn in the view above. A similar window occurred in the southern wall, answered probably by one in the northern ; but the latter has totally disappeared. Two windows were in the southern transept, and no doubt round the western wall were corresponding means of light. There was a small doorway in the chancel, and another in the southern transept ; but the principal entrance, judging from the analogy of Holywell, must have been near the well itself, at the western end of the building. Along the eastern side of the southern transept are the remains of a bath, or place for immersion ; and, from this bearing marks of being the earliest portion of the edifice, it may be conjectured that the waters gushed forth originally hereabouts ; but that on a channel being opened up and carried further back,

towards the hill-side, the larger bath, or well, was afterwards formed where it is now found.

The form of the well itself may be judged of from the annexed plan; it was about seven feet eight inches square, internally, with three of the sides formed into salient angles; and at each point arose a shaft, or pier, supporting arches and canopied work over head, just in the manner of Holywell. The water escaped under an arch and some screen-work, towards the west, and there bathers were admitted to use it by means of steps descending into the water. The overflow then passed away by a drain, turned towards the east, ran under the southern transept into the original well, and thence again escaped alongside the southern wall of the chancel, till it found its way into the Elwy.



H. L. J.

Plan of Capel Vair, Wygfair.

A little to the south-west of the chapel is a fragment of a building with some traces of walls, which indicate the habitation perhaps of the guardian of the well, or of the priest who had charge of the chapel; but no architectural features remain to help a conjecture as to its style and date.

The materials of these edifices, and especially the squared stones, quoins, and dressings of the windows, have very likely served to build the neighbouring cottages and houses, judging at least from the fate of the ecclesiastical edifices

subsequently to the time of the Spoliation. A lingering feeling, however, of sanctity hovered about this well and chapel long after their desecration; and both marriages and baptisms were from time to time celebrated within these ancient walls. In proof of this, the following entries may be cited from a MS. written by Pierre Roberts, Registrar of St Asaph, from A.D. 1595, to A.D. 1646. They are communicated by the ever-ready kindness of its possessor, Miss Angharad Llwyd.

“Wigwer.

“1611. Mem. thatt upon fridaye at night happening upon vii daye of ffebruarie one Pyers Gryff: ab Inn Gryffydd, my Brother in Lawe, was married clandestinely with one Jane vch Thomas hys second wiffe at the chappel at Wicwer called Capel ffynnon vair.

“1615. Upon Mondaye in Easter week beinge the v<sup>th</sup> daie of April, 1615. One Tomas Wynn, sonn and Heire appartenente of Robert Wynn ab Tomas of Llwynie in the Parishe of Llanrwst, and one Catrin the second dau: of Evan Llwyd of Wicwer one of the clerkes attending the councel of the Marches of Wales, were married in the chappell called ‘Cappel ffynon Vair’ by John Ireland cleric: one of the Vicars choral of the Cathedrall Church of St. Asaph, by virtue of a License untoe hym, in that behalf, granted.

“1626. Mem. thatt upon Saturdaie iv<sup>th</sup> of Novembre, about twilighte, one John ab Risiart of Cwybyr and Elsbeth Lloyd one of the daughters of Evan Lloyd of Wicwer were married clandestinely in the Chappel in Wicwer by John Willums Clerics.

“1633. thatt upon Wednesdaye the xxviii<sup>th</sup> daie of August, Thomas Price gent: and Marie Llwyd youngest dau: of Evan Llwyd Gent. (decesed) of Wicwer were married in Cappel ffynon Vair.

“1640. Upon Monday the iii<sup>th</sup> of January, William Davies and Ann Holland were married att Cappel Vair, Wigwer.”

The three young ladies of Wygfair, mentioned in the above extracts, seem to have had a strong feeling of affection for the neighbouring well; which then, as ever, must have been a favourite resort of gentle swains and tender maids.

The common tradition of this country is that baptisms

were commonly performed here: and a vase in the garden of the cottage and school, near the mill of Bodlewyddan, is pointed out as the actual font that was used at Capel Vair. The vase, however, seems more of Pagan than of Christian fabric; and it is more probable that the well itself served for this purpose, as being the most fitting font that could be anywhere found.

It is much to be desired that the owner of the land should take efficient steps for the preservation of what remains of this interesting building; and that if the well were once more cleaned out, and rendered available for bathing, the strong arm of the law should be called in to repress any fresh attempts at diverting it from this purpose.<sup>1</sup>

H. L. J.

### SEAL OF JOHN, BISHOP OF LLANDAFF.

BELOW is an exact representation, of the same size as the original, of a seal found about forty-five years ago, near the cathedral of St. Asaph. One of the choristers, while digging in his garden, discovered this curious object of art, which is in bronze or some mixed metal, and therefore may be suspected to have been cast from the original silver seal of the prelate, to whom it belonged; at least the degree of decoration bestowed on it leads us to expect that some metal more precious than brass would have been used. It was sold to Mr. Bailey, at that time organist of the cathedral, who afterwards filled the same office at Chester. He died in 1835, and the seal has continued in possession of the family ever since.

The legend is,

*Sigillum ioh̄is. episcopi landaven̄s. ordin̄s. p̄dicatorū.*

This limits the possession of the seal to one of the following prelates:—John de Eglescliff, A. D. 1323-47; John Burghul or Burghill, A. D. 1396-98; and John Howden or Hunden, A. D. 1458-76, if the usual list of bishops be

<sup>1</sup> In the view of the eastern end of the chapel given above, the window, from some indistinctness in the sketch, is made too circular in its curve. It is a flat Tudor arch. The lower part, too, though quite broken down to the level of the ground, is too much removed in the engraving, and gives it the appearance of a door-way.

followed, these being the only Dominicans of the name of John who filled the see of Llandaff. If, however, we adopt the authority of Harpsfield, p. 583, we must admit *John Bolesham*, (called William de Bottlesham by other writers,) A. D. 1386-89, into the list given above. From the style of the architectural decorations of the seal, and from its other adjuncts, we should assign it to John Bolesham, or John Burghul; but possibly some of our antiquarian friends at Llandaff may be able to solve the question, by identifying the armorial bearings at the bottom of the seal.



Seal of John, Bishop of Llandaff.

Harpsfield states that John Bolesham was a Dominican, and an excellent preacher, on account of which King Richard II. translated him to Rochester. We know from other authority that John Burghul was Confessor to the same monarch, and therefore it is highly probable that he may have attended that unfortunate monarch in his melancholy journey through Wales after the landing of the Duke of Lancaster, and left his seal either at Rhuddlan or St.

Asaph, as the King and his train were coming from Conwy to Flint. He was made bishop of Lichfield soon after. The circumstance of the seal being found under ground may be accounted for by the conflagration of St. Asaph Cathedral by the Welsh, soon after the deposition of Richard II. We advise our readers to compare this seal with that of Lewis, bishop of Bangor, published in vol. i. *Arch. Camb.* p. 148, which is of nearly the same date, but of inferior design and execution; and we shall be glad to have some further light thrown on the subject.

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### CAMBRIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

THE FIRST ANNUAL MEETING, which has been already announced for the second week in September next, at Aberystwith, will commence on Tuesday, the 7th of September, and will close on Friday, the 10th. These days have been fixed on in order to give clerical members, who may have parochial duties from which they cannot absent themselves, time to arrive from, and to return to, remote parts of the Principality without inconvenience.

A Local Committee has been formed at Aberystwith, by authority of the President, for the purpose of superintending all local arrangements, and consists of the following gentlemen, with power to add to their number: —

JOHN HUGHES, Esq., Lluestgwilym, Local Secretary for Cardiganshire; — Chairman,

J. M. DAVIES, Esq.,

P. EVANS, Esq.,

R. JAMES, Esq.,

The two General Secretaries, (*ex officio*).

All applications for information addressed to these gentlemen will meet with ready attention.

GENERAL ARRANGEMENTS.— Members, on arriving at Aberystwith, will do well to apply to the Local Secretary at once, for enrolling their names, and for obtaining their tickets of admission. These tickets, five shillings each, will admit a member and two ladies to all the meetings.

There will be general meetings held for the reading of papers, &c., on the morning and evening of each day. The middle portion of each day will be occupied in examining the local and neighbouring antiquities, and also in excursions to more distant spots, such as Strata Florida Abbey, Bedd Taliesin, &c.; the parties for which, and the order in which the visits will be made, will be arranged by the Local Committee.

A public breakfast and a public dinner, at moderate prices, will be provided each day at one of the hotels; and the use of the Public

Rooms has been secured for the occasion. All due attention, too, will be paid to the procuring suitable lodgings for Members, during their stay.

*In order to facilitate these measures as much as possible, and to prevent disappointment, it is earnestly requested of Members purposing to be present, that they signify their intentions to the Local Committee as long before as they possibly can.*

**CONVEYANCES.**—With regard to conveyances and routes, Members coming from the North will have their choice of two roads; the one from Shrewsbury, through Welshpool; and the other from Chester, through Caernarvon and Dolgelley, or through Bala and Dolgelley. On each of these lines there is a daily mail, and on the first, in September, there will be an additional coach, running three days a week; the days are not yet announced. Those coming from Herefordshire and South Wales may take the Gloucester mail, running daily through Hereford, Kington, and Rhayader, or a coach called the "Collegian," starting from Brecon, and running three days a week through Llanddovery and Lampeter. It is difficult to state with accuracy and certainty, what coaches (except the mails before mentioned) will be in motion in September; but, to avoid mistakes, the safest plan will be to recommend all who are unacquainted with the country to apply to the Local Committee, or the Local Secretary, for information and direction on the subject. The following is a correct account of hours, &c., up to the present date (July 1st): a daily mail from Gloucester, through Ledbury, Hereford, Kington, and Rhayader, leaving Gloucester at 2 A.M., arriving at Aberystwith at half-past 3 P.M. Also a daily mail from Shrewsbury, through Welshpool, Can-office, Mallwyd, and Machynlleth; leaving Shrewsbury at 7 A.M., arriving at Aberystwith at 5 P.M. The summer coaches have not yet commenced running. The mails start from Chester to Dolgelley, and from Chester to Caernarvon, at 5 A.M., arriving at 2 P.M. A coach is *expected* to go on from Caernarvon to Dolgelly, and thence to Aberystwith. Also another coach will run from Brecon, through Llanddovery, where it will meet the Milford and Caermarthen, and Swansea mails. The days they are to run are not known, but will be so in a short time.

**PAPERS.**—The *titles* of papers to be read at the meeting should be forwarded to the General Secretaries, *without delay*. The papers themselves should be in the hands of the General Secretaries *at least a fortnight* before the meeting, in order that a proper examination and classification of the business of the meeting may be made. Members will, of course, read their own papers, unless they wish the Secretaries to do so for them.

**EXHIBITION.**—An exhibition of various objects of antiquity, ancient armour, valuable MSS., drawings, &c., will take place; and Members intending to send, or bring, articles of this nature, are requested to make known the circumstance to the Local Committee, and the General Secretaries.

## TRANSACTIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The following new Members have joined the Association :—  
Fielding, Viscount, Downing, Flintshire ;  
Davies, David, Esq., St. David's College, Lampeter ;  
Davies, Wm., Ph. D., Frwd-Vale, Caermarthenshire ;  
Davison, S. G., Ph. D., Professor of Modern Languages at the Presbyterian College, Caermarthen ;  
Hughes, Rev. John, M.A., Llanbadarn Fawr, Aberystwith ;  
James, Mr. David, (*Myrddin*) Aberavon ;  
Jones, Rev. J. E., Bridgend, Glamorganshire ;  
Morgan, T. O., Esq., Aberystwith ;  
Philipps, J. B. Lloyd, Esq., of Mabus, Cardiganshire ;  
Raines, Rev. F. R., M.A., F.S.A., Rural Dean of Rochdale.  
Thomas, R. Goring, jun., B.A., Ch. Ch., Oxford, and Llys-Newyd,  
Caermarthenshire.

The two following highly distinguished Foreign Members have been added to the list : Dr. Charles Meyer, Buckingham Palace ; M. Alfred Ramé, Membre de la Société Archéologique de la Bretagne, Rue d'Antrain No. 59 à Rennes.

The curious coffin lids and incised slabs, lately found in the foundations of Flint Church, have been purchased by the Association, aided by a small subscription, and are intended to be placed in some local Museum for national and county antiquities, which it is hoped may, at some future time, be established in Flintshire.

A crucifix and a brass were discovered at the same time, but they are in possession of private persons. Two small silver coins of Edw. II.(?) were also found in a deep grave opened during the excavations.

The Local Secretary for Anglesey, has reported that the ancient farm house of Tre'r Castell, near Llanfaes, once the seat of the Tudors, having become so ruinous as to require rebuilding, the owner of it, Henry Williams, Esq., has, with excellent taste, and a true feeling of the value of historical monuments, ordered that the fragment of a tower adjoining the house, of much earlier date, and said to have been used by the chieftain as a prison, shall be preserved.

HOLYWELL.—The following Memorial has been addressed to the President of the Association, on the condition of St. Winefred's Well, at Holywell, and on a project for repairing it.

The condition of St. Winefred's Well at the present moment (1847) demands certain reparations for the due support of the fabric, which several architects have declared imperatively necessary. I am not able to pronounce any opinion upon what forms the most important feature of these repairs ; that is to say, the condition of the foundations of the edifice. They are stated to be much eaten away from one cause or another, and to endanger the stability of the superstructure. It would be easy to ascertain this, if the water could be drawn off ; and perhaps at the same time means might be found of so economizing the supply, and affixing pipes, &c., that a material improvement might be effected.

The architectural portions of the higher buildings certainly require reparation, but principally in those parts which are ornamental. Thus the inner covering of the well itself has been broken in former times, and some of the enclosing arcades require a thorough restoration. Various ornaments of the buttresses and corbel-tables require repairs; but on the whole the expense of putting the upper portion of the building into a complete state of repair would not be very considerable. Speaking at a rough guess, I should suppose that the buildings might be restored, and suited to the purposes developed below, for a sum not exceeding £500. This is independent of the expenses of the foundation, upon which I can form no competent opinion.

The well is now used partly for bathing purposes during the fit season; and the bath outside, as also a small plot of ground belonging to it below the churchyard, offer considerable facility for these purposes. But the well is also made the common resort of the inhabitants of that part of the town for fetching water. Children are usually employed for this purpose; to obtain the water they have to descend the steps; considerable quantities are always spilled in going up them again, and from the careless habits both of the poorer inhabitants themselves, and also of the children, the building, and the well itself, are kept in a state of wet and dirt painful to see, and highly inconvenient to the bathers.

I venture to propose that a pipe be conveyed from the well on the siphon principle, or that a pump with a circular action (so as to avoid noise and to afford a continuous jet of water) be established; to which alone those who want water shall resort. It should be placed outside the building in the road,—perhaps somewhat lower than the well, and then no pump would be required,—but certainly by the wayside; so that the children and lower classes, who now abuse the well, should no longer be allowed to make it a common resort, and that the well should be reserved especially for the service of invalids, whether bathers or drinkers. It would be an act of cruelty to deprive any one of the full benefit of the well; but certainly the obtaining of the water might be made to depend on certain regulations that should not interfere with the fullest right of use, and should only prevent the present careless and dirty way of employing it. A public pipe or pump would supply all the pails that could be brought to it, and the well would then be kept in a proper condition for those that required it.

It would tend to create a fund for the perpetual maintenance of the fabric if suitable places, for the unrobing &c. of the bathers, could be formed outside the building. The house of the keeper of the well might be enlarged for this purpose; or else a building might be erected on the plot of ground mentioned above, under the churchyard, and now planted. Hot baths might also be established here; and if the place were put in a seemly condition, the crowds of dirty, idle children excluded, and the service of the well duly organized, no doubt the number of bathers would be increased, and something like a perpetual small fund for the support of the fabric might be formed. The unsightly wooden boxes, now put up inside the lower building, should be totally removed; they hinder the circulation, are very inconvenient, and disfigure the edifice.

Over the well is the ancient chapel, now used as a school. It is perhaps not the right time to propose that this should be restored to its original destination; but instead of this (though my own wishes would be to see it a chapel again) I propose that it be thoroughly restored, and then converted into a museum of county antiquities, county mineralogy, &c. Many

moveable objects of ancient art, such as the gravestones at Flint, &c., perhaps some Roman remains, might be brought hither; and, at all events, a large and interesting collection of the various minerals, with their associated rocks, for which the county of Flint is so famous; as well as, perhaps, specimens of its Botany and Zoology, might be here formed. To this the public should be admitted on payment of some very trifling sum, or else gratuitously; and thus the whole building would receive a more appropriate destination, and would be less exposed to the noise and dirt of children. The children frequenting the school, and those coming to the well for water, at present take away from the *prestige* of the edifice; whereas such a plan as that now proposed would keep the building quiet, and would supply a place that ought to exist in every county town; viz., a Museum of National and Local Antiquities.

The property, I am told, belongs to the Marquis of Westminster; but, if the nobility and gentry of the county were to request his lordship for aid in such a matter, their application would no doubt be taken into favourable consideration, a new school house might be built elsewhere at moderate expense, and the whole plan carried into effect quickly and easily.

When thus restored, a complete architectural account and history of the well, handsomely and suitably illustrated, should be published, and the profits, if any, given to the fabric fund.

H. L. J.

**FLINT CASTLE.—A second Memorial on the condition and reparation of the castle at Flint, has been also addressed to the President.**

THE castle of Flint, though not one of the largest and most magnificent in Wales, is of great architectural and historical value. Like Rhuddlan and Beaumarais, it is one of the regularly formed buildings of the military architects of the thirteenth century; i.e. the building was scarcely formed to accommodate the ground, but rather to suit the designs and taste of the planner. Thus the castle of Beaumarais, situated in a swamp, forms a square within a regular pentagon; that of Rhuddlan forms a square, with truncated corners, or an irregular octagon, within a square; that of Flint forms a square, also with truncated corners, and is further remarkable from having its keep detached from the citadel, and lying actually *outside* it. The quoins and most of the ornamental stones have been removed, probably by the cupidity of unauthorized persons, for use in building houses, &c.; much also of the inner works have disappeared; and at the present time (1847) the sea, at high tides, washes the base of the wall on two sides, and has greatly undermined and sapped two towers. It is also attacking the base of the keep; while the curtain, that extended from the eastern tower to the keep, is destroyed, and part of the north eastern curtain has disappeared. The general contour and outline of the building, however, remain, and it forms one of the most valuable monuments possessed by the county. It is a peculiarly fortunate circumstance, too, that the railroad, now making through Flint, was not carried by its projectors through the walls of the castle.

The keep is the most remarkable, in one point of view, in North Wales; inasmuch as it has, as it were, one circular tower inside another, formed by enormous circular galleries; and also from its great diameter.

The ashlar work of the whole castle has been very fine; the stones being regular in size, carefully put together, and of most harmonious colour and appearance.

N N

The portions of the masonry still standing are tolerably solid, and the whole might be repaired, on the excellent principle adopted by the Board of Woods and Forests for Caernarvon Castle, viz.: that of securing every existing stone in its actual place, and of adding to the building as little as possible.

The keep is now made a common resort by the lower inhabitants and boys of the place for purposes that should be put an immediate end to; and it would be highly desirable that, while the public should not be totally excluded from frequenting the castle, means should be adopted for not allowing its precincts to be abused.

I venture to propose that steps should be taken for repairing this castle on the same principle as that of Caernarvon, and I consider that a sum of £500 might suffice for the reparation of the whole building.

These reparations should consist:—

1. Of securing from further decay those portions of the towers and curtains which threaten ruin.

2. Of repairing and restoring the keep, the most important feature of the whole edifice. In these the breaches in the lower portions of the walls should be stopped, and the ancient entrance by the drawbridge restored. The interior should be immediately cleaned and freed from its pollution, and the galleries cleared out to their proper levels, &c. No roofing appears necessary; the vaulting of the lower gallery being dry, and the superincumbent grass and earth serving as an efficient protection.

An independent and a most essential portion of the repairs, however, must be provided for by a separate estimate, viz.: that of erecting an embankment or sea-wall, to protect the bases of the towers and curtains from the action of the tide. As the water is never deep there, no great expense need be incurred; but, nevertheless, it is necessary that it should be done, otherwise, in due course of time, both of the easternmost towers must fall.

When the castle is restored thus far, the interior might be taken better care of, and formed into a promenade for the town, not approached through the gaol-gate, but entered between the keep and the eastern tower, where now is only the beach. The gaol should be kept isolated from the castle on account of the prisoners. A guardian might be appointed for the building, and even a lodging formed for such a person within the walls; and perhaps a small sum might be required from visitors, to go towards the maintenance of the keeper.

I am not aware whether the castle be still Crown property, but if it be, then the same enlightened taste, which ordered the reparation of Caernarvon, might be effectually awakened in favour of Flint. If it be private property, there is sufficient public spirit among the heads of the county to aid the owners in carrying out this desirable object.

Should the idea of forming a museum at Holywell fail, then one might be constructed inside this castle, and the fund, arising from fees of admission, would tend to support the building and the institution.

H. L. J.

## Correspondence.

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### CELTIC REMAINS IN MONMOUTHSHIRE.

*To the Editors of the Archaeologia Cambrensis.*

**GENTLEMEN.**—Some few years ago I was travelling on a coach between Chepstow and Abergavenny, when my attention was drawn to some large stones lying prostrate on the right hand side of the road, but on which side of the town of Usk I cannot now remember. Living in a county where cromlechs are unknown, and not having visited those of Cornwall and the Channel Islands, I was particularly struck with these remains.

I found that in the eyes of the coachman, and also of the whole neighbourhood, they were considered rather as a *lion*, not on account of being Celtic remains, but because it had required the united force of the farm-horses of the neighbourhood to pull them down, and that they could not even then remove the disunited masses from the spot.

Whether the stones are still remaining there or not, I cannot tell, neither do I know the name of the place, nor whether it has ever been explored.

If I am not requesting too much, and it is in your power to give me any information on the subject, you will oblige,

Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

RICHARD G. P. MINTY,

Secretary to the Norfolk and Norwich Archaeological Society.

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### CAMBRIA ROMANA.

*To the Editors of the Archaeologia Cambrensis.*

**GENTLEMEN.**—The following is a list of some more of the coins found at Segontium, continued from vol. i. p. 289. These coins, with the other articles discovered, have been deposited in the Caernarvon Museum. They are all of middle brass except No. 52, which is of the small size:—

No. 49. Obverse, IMP. COLLEC TVS AVG; a radiated head, (Query, ALLECTUS.) Reverse, ADVENTVS AVG. Legend illegible.

No. 50. Obverse, CONSTANTINVS AVG. Reverse, MARTI. CONSERV. Mars standing with a spear reversed and shield. Exergue, PTR.

No. 51. Obverse, CONSTANTINVS AVG.; head of the emperor, and sceptre. Reverse, BEATA TRANQVILLITAS. An altar inscribed VOTIS. \*\*, surmounted by a globe. Exergue, LON.

No. 52. Obverse, CORNE . . . SA . . head of the empress bound with a fillet. Reverse, a figure standing, holding a patera in her right hand, and the hasta in her left. Inscription illegible.

No. 53. Obverse, IM. TETRICVS AVG. Reverse, SECVRITAS REIPVBLCÆ; victory standing with a garland and palm branch. Exergue, SP. Field, OFL.

S

No. 54. Obverse, CONSTANTINVS AVG CAES. Reverse, GLORIA XERCITVS GALI; an armed figure holding a labarum with the right hand, the left resting on a shield. Exergue, CON. Field, OFHL.

I have decyphered several other coins, but they are more or less repetitions of types already given.

I am, &c.,

Caernarvon, June 1st, 1847.

J. F.

MONUMENT AT LLANVIHANGEL, CWM DU,  
BRECKNOCKSHIRE.



*To the Editors of the Archaeologia Cambrensis.*

GENTLEMEN.—Herewith I enclose you a sketch of a portion of a carved stone built into the south wall of the chancel of the Church of Llanvihangel Cwm du, in Brecknockshire, remarkable for the elegance of the cruciform pattern, and for the heraldic shields with which it is ornamented. The latter will, doubtless, enable the Welsh genealogist to appropriate the stone to its legitimate owner. I presume its date is not earlier than the middle of the sixteenth century. The lower part of the stone, doubtless, contained the remainder of the central ornament, which is intended for the base of the cross. Such monuments seem to have been greatly the fashion in Brecknockshire two or three centuries ago. There are great numbers of them in the Priory Church at Brecon, as well as in the Abbey, (which is now unused and tumbling to pieces,) and in the adjacent Church of Llanvaes. The sculptor seems to have taxed his ingenuity to the utmost to invent beautiful and intricate designs for the heads of the cross on these stones, which were originally broadest at the head, (agreeing with the ancient custom,) and with a marginal inscription. In Llanvaes Church, especially, I noticed that great numbers of these stones had been sacrilegiously cut to pieces and squared (thus cutting off the names of the deceased,) to form a more modern pavement to the church!

J. O. WESTWOOD.

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LLANDDERFEL GADARN.

*To the Editors of the Archaeologia Cambrensis.*

GENTLEMEN.—A correspondent inquires, in your last number, for information respecting *Llandderfel*. It is an extensive parish, in the hundred of Penllyn, in Merionethshire. The village is beautifully situated on the left bank of the Dee, about four miles from Bala, and within sight of the road from that town, through the vale of Edeirnion, to Corwen. The church is a good specimen of very late Perpendicular (not debased) gothic, probably of the reign of Hen. VIII. Externally, it is in good preservation; it is some years since I have seen the interior, but if my memory be correct, it was much disfigured by unsightly pews. The registers commence at an earlier period than is common in parishes in North Wales,—before the end of the sixteenth century,—but they contain no notice of the celebrated

image of *Derfel Gadarn*. In the rectory-house was, not long ago, and probably still is, preserved what is called a portion of *Derfel's horse*; but it, doubtless, formed a part of the insignia of the saint. It is a staff of wood, nearly the same as that held by a figure in a sketch, which, with the subjoined notes, in Welsh, relative to *Llandderfel* parish, are found in some historical notices relating to many of the parishes in Merionethshire, in the autograph, — nearly, if not quite, all, — of Edward Lhuyd, of the Ashmolean Museum.

I am sorry that I am not able to give you a good translation of these notes, but your correspondent will probably be able to do so. The sketch represents a figure in a long robe, with a nimbus round the head, holding a book in the left hand, and a staff, with a wavy head, in the right. Underneath is written

“*Sēus Trillo abbat.*  
Orate pro āabz Houell ap  
qui . . . . e . . fieri fecerunt.”

And above it is written

“In y<sup>e</sup> north window at Lhan Dervel Church Mēirshire.”

The figure of the saint, and the inscription under it, are on the same page of Lhuyd's notes, but I would suggest that the former, having been at *Llandderfel*, was *St. Derfel Gadarn*, and that the latter, being an invocation to *St. Trillo*, was copied from the neighbouring church of Llandrillo. I am the more inclined to think so from the close resemblance between the sceptre held by the figure in this sketch, and the relic preserved in the rectory at *Landderfel*. I should mention that the notes and sketch are in an interleaved copy of Ray's *Synopsis Methodica*, in the possession of Sir Robert Williams Vaughan, Bart. — I am, Gentlemen, yours obediently,

W. W. E. W.

*Lhan Dervel.*

Y plwyddh o amgylch gdynt Llanvor, Llandrillo, Llangwm, D. Sh. [Denbighshire.]

ŷgeint o dai y sydh wrthyr Eglwys: ym mwlich y Gwrnwdhog y by medhā hwy hen cappel.

D. gwyl Dhervel dhiwmarth y Pask.

Personaliaeth Mr. [Henry] Parry.<sup>1</sup>

*Y Treyyd degwm.*

1, Lh. Dhervel; 2, Nan Ffreiar; 3, Kaer Geiliog; 4, Tre-Gynlas; 5, Llaethgwm: 6, Selwern; 7, Krogen.

*Y Tai Kyenrivol.*

1, Krogen, yr Argl: Willoughby,<sup>2</sup> o hawl i wraig . . . v. h. Sr. Rich: Wyn o Wydys; 2, Bodwenni, Mr. Elis Davyd, y perchenawr dywaetha; 3, Garthlywyd, a berthyn i M. Edm: Meirig o Ycheldre; 4, Gwern ŷ Brechdyn, a berthyn i'r Col: Wms. o Lanvorda;<sup>3</sup> 5, Pale, Mr. Morys Lloyd; 6, Tyn y Dhol, Mr. Lh: Evans; 7, Plas iss, Mr. John Jones, perchennoq dywedha, mae geneth iddo er o edhan blwyd; 8, Kae Pant, Hugh Davies tan oed; 9, Tydhyd Inko, Mr. Th: Roberts.

<sup>1</sup> He was rector of Llandderfel from 1675 to 1705.

<sup>2</sup> He succeeded his father, as Earl of Lindsay, in 1701.

<sup>3</sup> Succeeded his father, the Right Hon. Sir Wm. Williams, Bart., in 1700.

*Tai eraill y dyn.*

1, Bryn Mredydh; 2, Y Ty yn g Pant; 3, Y Vedw vonlhom; 4, Tydlyn y Barwn; 5, Nant yr eithin; 6, Llanerch y Baidh; 7, Bryn Bwlen; 8, Brynderw, &c.

Fynnon Dhervel ar Garth y Lhan, yn agos y Lhan.

Kaer Kyreini yn hre Nan Freiar, kaer vawr ydyw hon.

Ogo yng kraig Krogen, a elwir Siambar y Tywisog.

Tywisog y vy yng Hrogen.

Ag ôl i arvargeli â ên.

An Llywelyn ap Iorw: Drwyndwn mawn a losgant amla yr rhain a ladhant ym Mynlhod a chwn y ſanlhwy a Gwernol, &c.

## VALLE CRUCIS ABBEY.

*To the Editors of the Archaeologia Cambrensis.*

GENTLEMEN.—On looking over the new edition of Dugdale's *Monasticon*, I find in the plate of arms, vol. vi., a shield entitled "Val Crucis" charged as follows: "Sable, a lion rampant argent, barry of three sable: between three crosses fitchy of the second." This blazon differs so essentially from that given in your first volume, p. 279, viz: "Vert, three rising falcons argent," that I imagine there must be some mistake in the matter. Perhaps your correspondent A. LL. may be able to give some further information on this subject.

In consulting the *Statutes of the Cistercian Order*, I have found the following passages in which Valle Crucis is mentioned. They are sufficiently curious to warrant transcription.

P. 1298. vol. iv. "De Abbatibus de Carlem, et de Valle Crucis et de Amberconem de quibus dicitur quod rarissime celebrant, et abstinent ab altari, committit abbatibus de Forda et de Combremare, ut accedant ad domos eorum, et diligenter inquirant de premissis, et quod invenerint per litteras suas sequenti capitulo fideliter satagant nuntiare. Prædictis autem abbatibus auctoritate capituli generalis precipitur, ut ad sequens capitulum Cisterciæ se præsentent, omni occasione remota, super oppositis responsuri. Statuta Anni MCCCI."

P. 1360. "Abbas de S. Cruce in Wallia, qui contra ordinis statuta litteras impetravit, ut licet mulieribus ingredi domum suam, sex diebus sit in levi culpa, duobus eorum in pane et aqua, et XL diebus extra stallum abbatis, et eisdem diebus abstineat ab altari, impetratis etiam litteris non utatur. Statuta Anni MCCXXXIV."

I am, &c.,

L.

## ROGER DE CLIFFORD.

*To the Editors of the Archaeologia Cambrensis.*

GENTLEMEN.—I lately found in a collection of MS notes in the possession of a Yorkshire friend, the following entry relating to Wales. Perhaps some of your correspondents may be able to inform me where "Newy Bridge" is. Was "Pont Newydd" intended by these words? and if so, where is it?

"Roger de Clifford upon St. Leonard's day A.D. 1284. 12.E.1. He marching in the King's army against the Welsh was in one of the skirmishes had with them unhappily slain betwixt Snowdon and Anglesey by inadvertently passing Newy Bridge over the River Conwey. Upon whose death the s<sup>d</sup> Isabell his widow doing her homage had livery of her lands."

I remain, Gentlemen, &c.,

A LANCASHIRE ANTIQUARY.

## BOTELER FAMILY.

*To the Editors of the Archaeologia Cambrensis.*

GENTLEMEN,—In reply to an inquiry in No. IV. as to the family of Boteler, I beg to state that in a pamphlet printed in 1815, but not published, I have met with the following, as then being in the church of St. Mary, in Abergavenny, viz.: a marble monument to the memory of Philip Boteler, Esq., who died July 1st, 1787, aged 56, and his relict, Mary Boteler, who died on the 9th day of May, 1794, aged 57.—Yours, &c.

April 24th, 1847.

W. P. A.

[In a work partly printed, partly in MS., entitled "*Pembrokeshire Pedigrees*, John Winter, 1671," and now preserved in that valuable collection of the Chetham Library, Manchester, (see *Gentleman's Magazine* for June, 1847,) we find two pedigrees relating to a family of the name of Butler, and we here transcribe them. They were obligingly pointed out to us by Thomas Jones, Esq., M.A., the librarian.—EDD. ARCH. CAMB.]

(1.)

A shield bearing sable,  
three cups argent.

A shield bearing argent, a  
fesse gules between four  
bars wavy, azure.

John Butler

Elizabeth Eliott.

John Butler

Alice Wogan.

John Butler of Koed Kenles.

(2.)

A shield bearing sable,  
three cups argent.

A shield bearing gules, a chevron  
argent between three escallops  
of the second.

Moris Butler

Elizabeth, daughter and heir to  
John Tankarde of Jonston.

William Butler

( ?) daughter to —— Golding  
of Kent.

Arnolde Butler, Ar.

Ellen Wogan.

Thomas Butler of Jonston, Esq.

## GRANT FROM HENRY VIII. TO HUMFREY LLOYDE.

*To the Editors of the Archaeologia Cambrensis.*

GENTLEMEN,—On looking over some old papers I discovered the following copy of an original grant from King Henry VIII. to one of our country-

men. As a curiosity perhaps you would like to have it for your interesting miscellany:—

“HENRY. R.

Henry the eight by the grace of God Kinge of England and of Fraunce defensour of the faith and Lorde of Ireland—To al maner our subjects as well of spiritual emynence and dignite as of temporall auctorite thies our Lettres hering or seing, greting. Forasmuch as we bee crediblie informed that our well beloved subiecte Humfrey Lloyde, for divers infirmties which he hath in his hedde cannot convenyentlie with oute daunger be discovered of the same, whereupon we in tendre consideration thereof have by these presents licensed hym to use and were his bonet att all tymes as well in our presence as els wher at his Libertie, we therefore will and comaunde you and eich of you to permty and suffre hym so to doo, withoute anie your challengies or interrupecyon to the contrary, as ye tendre our pleasure and woll avoyde the contrary at your further perills. Yeven under our signet at the Castell of Wyndesoure the XIIth Day of June the nineteenth Yere of our Reign.”

Perhaps some of your Antiquarian Readers may be able to inform me who this Humphrey Lloyd was, and what particular services the inside of his head had performed, that could entitle its outside to so extraordinary and so honourable an exemption from the common Forms of respect.—

Your obedient servant,

Banks of the Dee, March 1, 1847.

E. P.

### Miscellaneous Notices.

**CAMBRIA ROMANA.**—The project of forming a club or society of gentlemen for undertaking researches connected with the Roman remains in Wales, so as ultimately to produce a book on the subject, the result of their united labours and observations, has been well received. Six gentlemen have already combined for this purpose, and have taken in hand the following counties and districts: Anglesey, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Montgomeryshire, Merionethshire, Caernarvonshire, and the districts of Cheshire and Salop bordering on North Wales, Monmouthshire, and parts of Glamorgan and Cardiganshire, with the Gloucestershire border in South Wales. Correspondents are wanted in Pembrokeshire and Brecknockshire, and we invite our antiquarian friends in those counties to aid these gentlemen in this laborious undertaking.

**ST. DAVID'S CATHEDRAL.**—A correspondent informs us that a campanile, or bell-turret, of this edifice is in imminent danger of destruction, if its repairs be not immediately attended to.

**CAERNARVON CASTLE.**—Whoever has visited Caernarvon Castle will remember how much the ground rises inside the court towards the southern end and the Queen's Gate. It has long been a subject of uncertainty whether this rising of the soil be altogether natural or artificial. A correspondent informs us that Mr. David Williams, who has been entrusted by A. Salvin, Esq. with the reparations, has found in this rising portion a series of vaults, the entrance to which is from the tower on the southern side of the King's Gate. When they are opened, some interesting dis-

coveries will no doubt be made. We wish we could hear that the houses, now built against the town walls on the *outside*, were going to be taken down ; they have no business there ; the town walls ought to be left perfectly free, externally at least.

**DONGENEWALL MONASTERY.**—Can any of our correspondents help us to some information concerning this religious house, which we thus find noticed in the index to the Red Book of St. Asaph, as published in Nichols's *Collect.* vol. ii. p. 257 ad finem :—"Convencio inter fratres Monasterii de Dongenwall, circa divinum servicium in Ecclesia Cathedrali Assaphen."

**MOLD CHURCH.**—The following inscription was lately found on a stone under the foundation of Mold Church, in the vault of Mr. Jones of Tyn-y-Twll :—

F V N D A M E N T U M  
E C C L E S I A E C H R I S T V S  
1597  
W: A S: E P S.

William Hughes, Bishop of St. Asaph, died 1600. What does this date refer to ? The church itself is of the time of Hen. VII.

**HOLYHEAD.**—A correspondent wishes to know whether any local tradition is preserved at Holyhead of the following fact mentioned by Enderbie, in his *Cambria Triumphans*, tom. ii. p. 217, viz. : That Rhodri Mawr was buried at Caer Gybi : — and on what authority this statement rests.

**TOPOGRAPHY OF GLAMORGANSHIRE.**—A correspondent wishes to know on what occasion, and at what period, the place called *Briton Ferry* obtained its name, and also why the adjacent spot called the *Giant's Grave* was so termed.

**THE HISTORY OF LLANTHONY PRIORY,** reprinted from the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, with a copious appendix and some new illustrations, especially a beautiful view engraved by Mr. G. A. Hanlon, has been published by the able and learned author, the Rev. G. Roberts. Few monastic houses have had such ample justice done them as this has, and the many interesting documents now laid before the public in an accessible form, especially the *Life of Robert de Betun*, translated from Wharton's *Anglia Sacra*, will form a great attraction to many readers.

We again call the attention of our readers to the *Annales Archéologiques*, that beautiful work published by M. Didron, at Paris. It is in a 4to form, taking the place in France of all our archæological works jointly. Both in its typography and in its illustrations it is a work of the highest art, while the profound and learned papers it contains keep up the character of the *Savans* of France. Among the late numbers which we have received, there is an interesting paper on Gallic Coins ; another on the Antiquarian Tour performed by the Editor last year in England ; an essay on Ecclesiastical Music ; some exceedingly valuable papers on the Construction of Ecclesiastical Edifices, by the eminent architect, M. Viollet Leduc ; and copious notices of all the antiquarian works issuing from the French press. A good paper on English Architecture, by A. J. Beresford Hope, Esq., is in the sixth volume. It surprises us how so large and beautiful a work can be produced for the money, 25 francs or £1. per annum, that is to say for twelve numbers ; we cannot come near it in this respect in England. It is a delightful sight, to us at least, to witness such a healthy state of public feeling in respect of antiquity in France, as is evinced by the activity of the

press in that peculiar department. We hope, some day or other, to tempt M. Didron and some of the French or Breton archæologists to visit our Cambrian mountains.

A VOLUME OF POEMS by the Rev. G. Edwards, curate of Llangollen, is advertised as about to issue from the press. Medals and prizes have been awarded to some of them at the Eisteddfodau of Beaumarais, Cardiff, Bala, Liverpool, &c., and no doubt they will form an interesting collection.

Mr. D. S. Evans, of St. David's College, Lampeter, is preparing for publication an Etymological Dictionary of the Welsh language. Any work that can aid the study of our native tongue we shall hail with pleasure. The compiler is also engaged in preparing a new and enlarged edition of the Rev. Thomas Jones's English-Welsh Dictionary. It is proposed to include in this edition all the English words in Todd's edition of Johnson's Dictionary with their synonyms in Welsh.

REPRESENTATIVES FOR MERIONETH.—Since the list, in the supplement to No III. of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, was compiled, I have discovered that in 1671 Henry Wynn, of Rhiwgoch, Esq., was M.P. for the county. Probably the person called Henry Meyrick, in a printed list of the parliament of the 8th May, 1661, was this Henry Wynn, and if so, he was then knight of the shire for Merioneth.—W. W. E. W.

ERRATA.—Sheriffs for the County of Merioneth. 1620, *Jame Pryse*, should be *James Pryse*; 1651, for *Murice*, read *Maurice*; 1769, *Rice, Jas.* should be *Rice, James*. In the Bull of Pope Martin V. (vol. ii. p. 146,) for *decidere*, read *accidere*; for *absci[n]dere*, read *abscidere*; for *Neath*, read *Neoth*; in the English translation, for *second*, read *sacred*.

PUBLICATION OF THE ARCHÆOLOGIA CAMBRENSIS.—Complaints have again reached us of a delay in the forwarding of copies of this work on the day of publication, and we have accordingly endeavoured to discover the cause of the evil. Being conscious of having always published the *Archæologia Cambrensis* punctually on the *first* day of each quarter, without failing in a single instance, we knew immediately that the fault must lie either with the local country booksellers, or with their London agents; and our enquiries enable us to give the following explanation. When a publisher happens to have his house of business at the West end of the town, as is the case with Mr. Pickering, it is a very common trick on the part of the clerks of the country agents, who live in the city, to make a false return to their employers, as to the non-appearance of a book, sooner than give themselves the trouble to go and look after it. This is a notorious trick of the trade; and as some of these clerks are smart, fashionable *gents*, it may be easily conceived that a walk, up from Paternoster Row to Piccadilly, may be sometimes exceedingly inconvenient. Nothing then is easier than to write down in their list, against the name of any West-end publication, “*Not out*,”—“*Out of print*,”—“*Not known*,” &c., just as the fancy strikes them. And the country bookseller, who of course is considered an ignoramus by his London contemporary, is fain to content himself and his customers with the unsatisfactory reply.

To give examples of this; some of the country booksellers who employ Messrs. Whittaker and Co., of London, as their agents, have been treated of late to the reply, “*Not out*,” when applying for the *Archæologia Cambrensis*; whereas Messrs. Simpkin and Marshall have always supplied their customers with our work, so as to have it in their hands punctually on the first day of the quarter. Thus, for instance, a bookseller at Rochdale,

in April last, received the usual "Not out," from Messrs. Whittaker and Co.; so did another bookseller at Presteign; but the booksellers at Oswestry, Bangor, Caernarvon, Chester, &c., all received their copies on the first of April, and their customers were supplied with them the same day.

As a remedy for this delay, our good friends the country booksellers (and we are glad of an opportunity of here thanking them for their great exertions in our behalf) may be sure that if they apply to Messrs. Simpkin and Marshall, Stationers' Hall Court, for the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, they will receive it at the proper time, without any mistake as to its appearance.

### Reviews.

**1. MONUMENTAL BRASSES AND SLABS, &c.** By the Rev. C. BOUTELL, M.A., Secretary of the St. Albans Architectural Society, &c. &c. 1 vol. 8vo. London: G. BELL, Fleet Street. 1847.

It has given us much pleasure to receive a work of this kind. Such a compendium or manual of the Brasses and Slabs of England has long been wanting; and this work, besides serving as a good book of reference to the antiquary, will tend to disseminate a knowledge of the subject among those who are only acquainted with the general bearings of it. To compile it must have required much time and labour, and the author must either possess a fine collection of rubbings and drawings, or he must have had access to some of the best collections in the country. The illustrations consist partly of lithographic outlines, having the effect of etchings, and partly of wood engravings; they are numerous and good; indeed the style in which the whole work is got up is highly creditable both to the author and the publisher. It is difficult to make extracts from a work composed mostly of minute details, but the following from an early page, will show how the subject opens:—

About the commencement of the thirteenth century, the custom appears to have been adopted in this country of affixing to slabs of marble or stone, portraits of the deceased engraven on plates of metal, the slabs themselves being laid in the pavement of churches, or in some comparatively rare instances placed upon altar-tombs. Purbeck marble and sandstone were in common use for this purpose; and more particularly slabs of forest marble from the Kirkford quarries in Sussex. The metal employed in constructing the engravings was denominated *latten*, *laten*, or *laton*, and appears to have been a compound somewhat resembling brass, but more costly and far more durable than that alloy. It was manufactured exclusively on the continent, previous to the middle of the seventeenth century, and from thence imported into this country. In Flanders and Germany, and especially at the city of Cologne, this manufacture was carried to the highest perfection; as may be inferred from the Beauchamp-chapel contracts, which provide that the metallic accessories and ornaments of the tomb of the earl of Warwick should be "made, forged, and worked in most finest wise, and of the finest *latten*;" the "large plate," which should sustain the recumbent effigy, being further specified as "to be made of the finest and thickest *Cullen plate*," the latten, that is, of Cologne. In shields of arms and those portions of the effigies which were designed to be tinctured argent, a white metal now presenting a pewter-like appearance, or lead, was in general use. These plates were embedded in pitch, and also firmly secured to the stone by means of cramps and rivets of brass.

The earliest recorded example of a brass in England, is the long-lost memorial of Simon de Beauchamp, earl of Bedford, who completed the foundation of Newenham Abbey, and dying before A.D. 1208, was buried at the foot of the high altar in St. Paul's church, Bedford; his epitaph was engraven in brass, and set on a flat marble slab, each letter being inserted in its own separate casement or cavity sunk in the stone; a portion of it has been preserved in memory,—

"*De Bello Campo jacet hic sub marmore Simon . . . . fundator de Newenham.*"

Jocelyn, bishop of Wells, who died in 1242, had a brass in the choir of that cathedral: and on the north side of the choir of Salisbury cathedral, the matrix or indent of the brass of Bishop Bingham may still be distinguished; this prelate died A.D. 1247, and his brass appears to have consisted of a cross flory with a demi-figure. Richard de Berkynge, abbot of Westminster, who died A.D. 1246, had his effigy in *pontificalibus*, with a fillet bearing an inscription in brass. Bishop Gravesend, A.D. 1279, had a brass in Lincoln cathedral: Bishop Longspée, A.D. 1297, at Salisbury: and Elias de Beckenham, A.D. 1298, at Botsford, Cambridgeshire. At Much-Hadham in this county a fine cross flory has been torn from a slab, which still retains the name of Simon Flambeau, rector of that church at a period not later than A.D. 1280. Another cross once enriched the pavement of the chancel of Pulham church in Norfolk; it was the memorial of Simon de Walpole, rector, A.D. 1301. "Ela, countess of Warwick," says Leland, "a woman of very great riches and nobilitie, lyethe under a very fair, flat marble, in the habit of a woves, (vowess or nun,) graven in a copper-plate." She died A.D. 1300. In the choir of our abbey-church (St. Alban's) lies a slab, once adorned with an effigy of an abbot in brass, with a legend: this is certainly of a very early date, and as certainly commemorates an Abbot John; but whether John of Cella, A.D. 1214, John de Hertford, A.D. 1260, John de Berkhamsted, A.D. 1301, or J<sup>u</sup>n Marinus, A.D. 1308, it now is impossible to decide. Other brasses, some of them gilded, are described by Dart and Leland, which were decidedly anterior to the earliest known existing specimens, those of Sir John D'Aubernoun, A.D. 1277, Sir Roger de Trumpington, A.D. 1289, and the demi-figure of Sir Richard de Buslingthorpe, of about the same date. After the close of the thirteenth century examples rapidly increase. Their original abundance is attested by the vast collection of despoiled slabs existing in almost every church: in our own noble abbey-church, scarce an early stone remains which has not its own deed of spoliation to denounce. And doubtless the pews, those unsightly excrescences of modern times, conceal numerous and important additions to the long series of brasses, known and recorded as yet extant. Notwithstanding their abundance, however, and a certain general similarity of character particularly apparent in brasses of about the same date, or which were probably the productions of the same artist, so varied was the treatment of these compositions, that no two specimens have hitherto been noticed, which in all respects are precisely identical.

The subjoined remarks on the methods of rubbing and copying brasses and slabs will be found useful:—

Various methods have been devised for obtaining fac-simile impressions of brasses and other incised works of art. The first collection of these impressions, now in the British Museum, was made by Craven Ord, about the year 1780, when Gough was engaged in preparing his great work on sepulchral monuments. This primitive collection\* was formed by filling the incised lines of the plates with printing ink, which was from them transferred by means of pressure to large sheets of paper previously damped. The impressions thus obtained were necessarily reversed: and besides this serious fault, this process is further liable to many objections. It was, however, soon discovered "that if paper of a moderate thickness were laid upon the brass, and any black substance rubbed over the surface of the paper, the incised lines would be left white, in consequence of the paper sinking into them, and offering no resistance to the rubber, whilst all the other parts received from that substance a dark tint: and although the effect of the ordinary impression is by this process reversed, the lines which should be black being left white, and the light ground of the design rendered dark, yet a perfectly distinct fac-simile is thus obtained with little labour, and great precision, in consequence of the progress of the work being visible throughout the operation." Of all substances available for the execution of this process, (and it may be effected by *any* substance which by friction will discolour the paper,) none is to be compared with the preparation known as HEEL-BALL, a compound of bees-wax and tallow with lamp-black, which is used by all shoemakers, and may be made of any desired consistency. This admirable material will, with the greatest facility, produce a fac-simile, which may be worked to any depth of colour, from a grey tint to a glossy black of the deepest shade: and it besides possesses the invaluable qualification of such decided permanence, as to be effected by no subsequent friction. Proficiency in the manipulation of heel-ball may speedily be acquired: it will be found desirable

\* Craven Ord was assisted by Sir John Cullem and the Rev. Thomas Cole, in forming his collection, which now is of especial value in consequence of the destruction of many fine examples since his time: this interesting series was purchased at the death of Craven Ord in 1830, by the late Francis Douce, Esq., for £43, and by him was bequeathed to the British Museum, where it was deposited in 1834.

to continue the rubbing until there cease to be any distinct marks of the heel-ball, and the work presents an uniformly smooth appearance. The most desirable colour is a deep grey, which can be obtained without obliterating any one of the finest lines of the composition, and at the same time produces the most agreeable effect. Of course it is indispensably necessary that the paper should not slip, or move in the slightest degree upon the brass : this may effectually be prevented by unrolling the paper over but a small part of the brass at one time, and keeping the spread-out portion steady by means of a few flat lead weights. The outline may be marked out by pressing the thumb upon the paper : and the left hand may be employed to guard the margin from being soiled by the rubber. It is also an important preliminary to press the thumb or fingers upon the broader and bolder lines of the engraving, in order to cause the paper to sink slightly into these lines, and that thus they may be the less exposed to the action of the rubber ; and, from being seen through the paper, their perfect whiteness may be the more effectually secured. Imperfections in the rubbing may be subsequently corrected : after which the paper should be mounted upon linen, and attached to a roller.

In place of heel-ball, a piece of leather of the same kind as the upper leather of a boot or shoe, will sometimes be found a valuable substitute : this is particularly the case where expedition, combined with careful accuracy in the expression of the minutest details, are required : these rubbings, however, though most excellent for the purpose of drawing from, will not stand ; and indeed are from the very first but faint, and to a certain degree dim and unsatisfactory. Another process, still more advantageous where the sole object is to obtain a fac-simile for the use of the artist, without any reference to a collection of rubbings, is effected by means of rubbers of wash-leather, stiffened with paper, and primed with a thin paste formed of very fine black lead in powder mixed with the best linseed oil : tissue-paper, of somewhat stronger substance than is commonly used, answers best for making rubbings by this method ; and this, like other qualities of paper, may be obtained of any size. I must repeat that where the sole object is to obtain an impression from a brass or other incised work, *any* material which may be at hand will be found available, as a lead pencil, a glove, or the bare hand ; the latter more particularly, if not at the time in the most delicate state of neatness.\*

In the spirit of the author's final remarks we heartily concur :—

In concluding this notice of one of these, our "national monuments," I cannot refrain from pressing the search after this "information," not upon archæologists alone, but upon every one who would desire to attain to a thorough acquaintance with history. Or rather, assuming, as I am persuaded I justly may assume, that archæology is to history herself as a twin-sister, by the influence of whose faculty of graphic elucidation the written records of the past can alone be faithfully realized to the mind,—in now advocating research into the subject of monumental effigy, to students of archæology I *would* in some respect restrict my appeal, because an accomplished historian I cannot but identify with a sound archæologist. And in conducting this research, it always is desirable, and indeed important, to associate the sculptured effigy with the engraved brass. The study of our "national monuments," and the "information" resulting from that study, can then only be complete when carried out in all its branches. True, the once gorgeous marble may now at first sight, but too often, appear but little better than a mis-shapen mass of those modern barbarisms, house-paint, whitewash and plaster : but by trouble, and care, and labour, it may be disengaged from these cases, and the beauty of the original, if not restored, may at least be distinguished. And this is a result well worthy of the trouble, and care, and labour incurred in bringing it about : for, the brass and the effigy, with but comparatively very few exceptions, "present the only existing portraits we possess, of our kings, our princes, and the heroes of ages famed for chivalry, and arms ;" and, with them, of other worthies no less distinguished in more peaceful callings. Thus considered, these memorials become indeed "extremely valuable, and furnish us not only with well-defined ideas of celebrated personages, but make us acquainted with the customs and habits of their time. To history they give a body and a substance, by placing before us those things which language is deficient in describing."

To the importance of such a pursuit, as the almost alone faithful illustrator of history, the great necromancer of chivalry himself bears undeniable witness : for, had he been a rubber of brasses and a studier of effigies, would Sir Walter Scott

\* As the result of our own experience, we are inclined to prefer the method with black lead and oil, applied by means of leather, and gloves, as it will admit of a much more delicate manipulation than the heel-ball. For horizontal incised slabs of stone, the French method of unsized paper and plain water, though tedious, is very effective.—EDD. ARCH. CAMB.

have armed his Ivanhoe in a fashion, not known for more than two centuries after the victor of Ashby-de-la-Zouch had left to other lords the fair domains of Rotherwood?

Convinced, therefore, of the manifold advantages to be deduced from the study of monumental brasses, (to revert once more exclusively to this class of memorials,) and also practically conscious as I am of the progressive and deepening interest which accompanies that study, it is with sincere gratification that from the Sr. ALBAN'S ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY, and the many other similar Societies which now appear springing up on every side into vigorous existence, I anticipate the continual accession of fresh strength to the already numerous ranks of the brass-rubbing fraternity; that term of course, including the no less skilful and enthusiastic, than the fair sisters of the craft. I speak of *Brass Rubbers* the more particularly, because it may be taken as an axiom in this, as indeed in every pursuit directly connected with the professed objects of these Societies, that *practice is everything*. What Mr. Paley remarks of moldings, in his admirable essay on those most important architectural members, is true of the entire study, of the length and breadth of archaeology. "The student," says Mr. Paley, "must not only observe; he must *copy* moldings, in order to understand them. Without the latter, his knowledge can never be otherwise than vague, partial, and imperfect;" a passage which we now may thus render,—It will be of but little use to *look* at brasses, if you do not *rub* them. It is the rubbing brasses which leads to the understanding them. Without *this*, at best vague, partial, and imperfect must be our knowledge of the incised monumental memorials of the middle ages.

At the same time, however, that I would insist upon the necessity of a strictly practical study of monumental art, as the most luminous and unerring of the illustrators of history, let me not be supposed unmindful of those more elevated and awe-inspiring associations which, in every rightly constituted mind, must, as I consider, be inseparably connected with thoughtful reflection upon the memorials of the dead. The roofs are hallowed which shelter those memorials, and the ground on which we tread when in search of them, is holy ground. Let nothing tempt us for a single moment to forget the reverence due to scenes and localities such as these. And, yet more, while seeking to augment our stores of information upon subjects, becoming indeed and most valuable, but which the very authorities we study proclaim to be changeable and evanescent,—may we ever bear in mind that *our* monuments, and they too mouldering and ruinous, possibly may afford subjects of research and also of admonition to distant generations: the supreme importance of erecting, if by any means we may be enabled to erect in other regions an imperishable memorial, thus will be impressed upon the mind; and that not the less convincingly, because in the already time-worn monuments at our feet, we recognise at once the origin of such a train of thought, and its most powerful corroboration.

## 2. THE BOOK OF SOUTH WALES. By C. F. CLIFFE. 1 vol. 12mo. London, 1847. (HAMILTON, ADAMS, & Co.)

This is one of the very best guide-books we have met with; but it is more than a guide-book; for it approaches to a complete topographical account and antiquarian description of the southern portions of the Principality. It is written, too, in a spirit of good taste and good feeling rare in works of this nature; and it will be found a most agreeable and useful companion to whoever traverses that country. The author evidently has studied Welsh history and Welsh antiquities profoundly; and what he describes he describes vividly and well. We have had time only to dip into it here and there; but we hope to find it in our pocket some day or other, while hunting up the castles, the mines, and the mountains of South Wales. We subjoin a few extracts:—

Oystermouth Castle is one of the most majestic Norman fortresses in the Principality, although but little appreciated until very recently. The structure, which stands upon a picturesque eminence near the Mumbles, was so much hidden by ivy that its outlines were hardly distinguishable—a mere shapeless mass of ruin; and the interior was also so much filled with rubbish as to destroy its character. In the year 1843, Mr. Francis, of Swansea, who thoroughly appreciated the place, induced the Duke of Beaufort, to whom it belongs, to expend a small sum in repairs and restorations. It is said that only £200 has been expended, and although more might be judiciously laid out, still the work of dilapidation has been arrested, and

a very fine example of medieval military architecture disclosed. Mr. Francis, under whose superintendence the restoration has been effected, has proved that a large outlay is not required in cases of this kind—a valuable fact.

The foundation of Oystermouth Castle has been ascribed both to Henry Beaumont, Earl of Warwick—the conqueror of Gower—and to Richard de Granville, one of Fitzhamon's knights, and the founder of the Castle and Abbey of Neath. Before the invention of artillery this fortress must have been of great strength. The north side is the most stately, and is pierced with more windows than is common; a lofty line of ramparts, with loops, but destitute of bastions, is carried along the edge of the rock that composes the site and influences the form of the structure, throughout the west and south side, to the grand entrance at the south-east end, which was strongly defended by towers and portcullises. The chapel, the walls of which are of great thickness, but which is the most elegant feature of the ruin, stands at the north-east end, and is of later date than any of the other parts. The mullions and tracery of the windows (which were until lately walled up) have been restored; and in the interior a piscina and some frescoes have been brought to light in the upper part of the south wall. Topographers have hitherto called the chapel "the keep." The stately-hall—an immense kitchen—and a guard room, the roof of which is supported by a single pillar, styled by the guide "the whipping post,"—have been also divested of rubbish and rendered accessible during the recent repairs; the kitchen was choked with rubbish six feet deep. There are few ruins more graceful and yet more commanding in effect than Oystermouth Castle; it is one of those places which interests you the more the oftener you view or inspect it.



Oxwich Castle.

Oxwich Castle appears to be almost wholly unknown to topographers. Even the usually accurate Malkin, from whose book a dozen other works have been vamped, states that "a fine Gothic window is nearly all that remains of Oxwich Castle." We were, therefore, agreeably surprised to find a structure of considerable extent, and great interest; one of the best examples of the transition from the castle to the castellated mansion. We give a sketch of the eastern elevation of the tower, which is of keep-like dimensions, divided into six stories, and lighted on three sides by numerous round-headed windows, irregularly placed. There are the remains of only two fire places visible in the interior. The adjoining state apartments were

sumptuous, and are externally in tolerable preservation. On the south side of the court-yard is a range of ancient buildings, now occupied as a farm-house, of interesting character: the entrance to the court-yard is under a fine Tudor doorway, over which is carved the arms of the Mansels, in very perfect preservation, with the initials R. M. The north side of the court-yard has been destroyed. The ruins, like Mr. Talbot's other castles, are in a sad state.—In the chancel of Oxwich church is an altar tomb, with the recumbent effigies of a knight and a lady, said to be those of the founder of the castle and his wife.—There is a ruined outpost, probable of a earlier castle, on an adjoining rock.

BRECON.—The College of Christchurch. A Dominican priory which existed here at the time of the Reformation, was converted by Henry VIII. into a collegiate establishment, which he transferred from Abergwilly, and on which he conferred a charter. The Bishop of St. David's is *ex-officio* dean, and there are a precentor, treasurer, chancellor, and nineteen prebendaries. Some eminent persons, including Mr. Theophilus Jones, the historian of the county, have been educated in this grammar school, from which divinity students were admitted to holy orders without graduating at Oxford or Cambridge, until Lampeter College was founded. Brecon College is now a disgrace to the principality. The school exists only in name (only six boys being educated there when we visited it), and the buildings are in a state bordering on ruin. The court on entering from the street was formerly the nave of the church (of which a Norman doorway remains), and was pulled down in Cromwell's day. The present church, which is in the Early Pointed style, formed the choir, and was altered and restored by Bishop Lucy after the Reformation. It is an interesting structure, but in wretched condition. Divine service was discontinued in 1838, since which the work of decay and destruction has been rapidly going on.\* There are many mutilated monuments, including the tombs of Bishops Bull, Lucy, and Mannering; and a splendid altar tomb, on which are effigies in the style of James the Second's time, of Richard Lucy, chancellor of the church (the bishop's son), and of his wife and child. Over the threshold of the door is an inscribed stone, now illegible, to the memory of the father of the celebrated *Sir David Gam*. There are twenty-three stalls, the value of which varies from £60 (nominally) down to £2, but sometimes very heavy fines are received on the renewal of leases. Several stalls are now vacant, and in the hands of the ecclesiastical commissioners. The Bishop's house or palace, now leased, is curious in an architectural point of view. The cloisters of the priory were in existence half a century ago; and part of a chapel ("Aubrey Chapel") attached to the Church of St. Nicholas—which stood close at hand—is left, together with the chapter room and vestiges of the refectory, and other parts of the old establishment. Two or three hours may be spent here.

3. *IETHADUR SEISONED*, by the Rev. D. E. JONES, M.A., incumbent of Llanafan-y-Trawsgoed, and domestic chaplain to the Right Honourable the Earl Lisburne.—G. WILLIAMS, Aberystwyth; pp. 144, 1845.

This is the only grammar of the kind which we ever remember to have seen. Its object is to make the "Cymro Uniaith" acquainted with the proper mode of speaking, reading, and writing the English language; and, as far as we have been able to judge, the task is well executed. The only fear that we have is, that the style of the author may be somewhat beyond the capacity of the persons for whom the work is intended. The introduction contains an elaborate but brief account of the Saxons, from the general dispersion until the time of William the Conqueror, and of the various changes which their language has undergone, of which specimens are also given.

Owing to a miscalculation of our own, not discovered until too late to be remedied, we are obliged to omit in this Number some reviews of important books, which we had intended to notice; such as Mr. Winston's *Remarks on Stained Glass*; Mr. Akerman's *Numismatic Illustrations of the New Testament*, &c. We shall not fail to make amends for our error in the next Number.

\* What are the Ecclesiastical authorities about? — EDD. ARCH. CAMB.

THE  
*Archaeologia Cambrensis*  
ADVERTISING SHEET.

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# Cambrian Archaeological Association.

## S U B S C R I P T I O N

FOR THE

### RESTORATION OF THE CHAPEL OF ST. BEUNO, AT CLYNNOG FAWR, CAERNARVONSHIRE.

At the First Annual Meeting of the Cambrian Archaeological Association, held at Aberystwyth, on the 7th September, 1847, it was moved by the Lord Viscount Dungannon, seconded by the Dean of Bangor, and carried unanimously :

"That, previous to the separation of the Meeting for this year, the names of Members of the Association willing to contribute to a fund for the Restoration of St. Beuno's Chapel, at Clynnog Fawr, be received on a paper to be left in the room of meeting for that purpose; and that circulars to that effect be issued throughout North Wales."

In consequence of this Resolution the following Subscriptions were immediately received :—

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